COLLECTIONS

FOR A

HISTORY

OF

STAFFORDSHIRE

EDITED BY

The William Salt Archæological Society.

1913.

"And in this undertaking, the Reader may see what Furniture (though it lie disperst) our Publick Records will afford for History: and how plentifully our own may be supplied and improved, if pains were taken therein: for what is hitherto made publick, hath been collected, chiefly out of old Annals, and they filled with few things but such as were very obvious, nay the Annalists themselves (for the most part residing in Monasteries) too oftened byass'd with Interest, and Affection, to Times and Persons: But on the contrary, in our publick Records lye matter of Fact, in full Truth, and therewith the Chronological part, carried on, even to days of the Month. So that an industrious Searcher may thence collect considerable matter for new History, rectifie many mistakes in our old and in both gratifie the world with unshadowed verity."—(ASHMOLE'S *History of the Garter*.)

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1913.

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The William Salt Archæological Society.

1913.

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RULES OF THE SOCIETY.

I.—That the Society be called the "WILLIAM SALT ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY."

II.—The leading object of the Society shall be the editing and printing of original documents relating to the County of Stafford, to which, however, may be added papers selected by an Editorial Committee, illustrative of the same, or coming under any of the eight following heads :—

(*a*) Abstracts of the Monastic Chartularies, and of Ancient Family Deeds, with the names of witnesses and fac-similes of seals; Genealogies of Nobility and Gentry (accompanied by proofs), Heraldic Visitations, and other papers touching the general history and descent of properties and families.

(*b*) Printing and editing of the Public Records relating to the County, including the Exchequer or Pipe Rolls, the Assize Rolls, Fine Rolls, Inquisitions, Perambulations of Forests, Subsidy Rolls, and Assessments, &c., &c.

(*c*) History of Parishes and of Manors, and of Manorial Customs and Tenures, illustrated by Copies of, or reference to, original grants.

(*d*) Church Notes hitherto unpublished, such as Ecclesiastical Surveys, Extracts from Episcopal and Parish Registers, Copies of Epitaphs, and Description of Monuments and Ecclesiastical Buildings, Abstracts or Copies of Wills, &c.

(*e*) Notices of British and Roman Remains, and Roads and Buildings, and the Antiquities generally of the District.

(*f*) Autograph Letters and other Documents relating to the Civil War.

(*g*) Notices of distinguished Worthies, Broadsides, Election Squibs, &c.

(*h*) Correspondence, in which enquiries may be made and answered, on any of the above subjects, and miscellaneous information, including corrections of errors.

III.—The general affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council of ten, of whom five shall be trustees of the William Salt Library, and nominated by them, from time to time, and five shall be elected at an Annual Meeting of the Subscribers. The Council shall be empowered to delegate, if they see fit, the selection of the papers to be printed to an Editorial Committee. Of the Council, three shall be a quorum, and in case of equality of votes, their Chairman shall have a casting vote.

IV.—The Officers of the Society shall be a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an Auditor, to be appointed by the Council. These Offices shall be honorary, but the Council shall have power to appoint an Assistant Secretary to be paid at the discretion of the Council, as the nature of his duties may warrant.

V.—The Subscription shall be One Guinea annually, to be paid in advance upon the first of January in each year, and such annual payment shall entitle each Subscriber to the volume issued for the year of such subscription. Any Subscriber shall be permitted to withdraw from the Society by giving notice of his intention three months before the termination of any year of Subscription.

N.B.—To save trouble, it is recommended that the Members of the Society pay their subscriptions to the Society's bankers by revocable order upon their own bankers, a printed form for which may be obtained from the Assistant Secretary.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

Corrected to 1st July, 1913.

The year in which Members joined the Society is prefixed. Where marked thus * the year is that in which the predecessors in title of the present Member joined.

1910 Adam, W. A., The Dawscroft, Brewood, Staffs.
1912 Adams, Geo. N., Summerfield, Wolverhampton.
1905 Adams, Percy W. L., Moreton House, Wolstanton.
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1879 Amphlett, John, Clent, Stourbridge.
1910 Anglesey, The Rt. Hon. the Marquess of, Beaudesert, Staffs.
1899 Anson, Captain The Hon. G. A., Stafford.
1909 Antiquaries of London, Society of, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W.
1913 Arblaster, W. G., Coombe House, Brownhills, Walsall.
1901 Argles, T. A., Haregate, Leek.
1910 Attwood, T. A. C., Sion Hill House, Kidderminster.
1898 Bagot, The Rt. Hon. Lord, Blithfield, Rugeley.
1912 Barns, Rev. Thos., Hilderstone Vicarage, Stone.
1885 Bayliss, William, Ivy House, Walsall.
1911 Beck, F. T., Wulfrum Chambers, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.
1890 Beech, Rowland J., The Shaw, Cheadle, co. Stafford.
1901 Beresford, The Rev. E. A., Hoby Rectory, Leicestershire.
1879 Beresford, The Rev. William, Vicar of St. Luke's, Leek.
1896 Berlin Royal Library (*care of Asher and Co.*, 13, *Bedford Street, W.C.*).
1879 Bill, Charles, The Woodhouse, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent.
1881* Birch, Miss L. J., Wheatham Lodge, East Cliff, Bournemouth.
1881 Birmingham Free Library.
1913 Bostock, H. I., Shawms, Radford Bank, Stafford.
1879 Boston (Massachusetts, U.S.A.) Public Library. (*Parcels through Messrs. Allen and Son*, 14, *Grape Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.*)
1913 Boucher, Arthur S., C.C., Sharpcliffe Hall, Ipstones, Staffs.
1913 Boulton, Francis A., C.C., J.P., Moor Court, Oakamoor, Staffs.
1879* Bourne, J., Hilderstone Hall, Stone, Stafford.
1913 Bowers, W. A., C.C., Caverswall Castle, Stoke-on-Trent.
1879* Bradford, The Right Hon. the Earl of, Weston Park, Shifnal, Salop.
1886 Bree, The Venerable Archdeacon, Allesley Rectory, Coventry.
1913 Brettell, H. C., Town Clerk, Dudley.
1912 Brevitt, Horatio, Town Clerk, Wolverhampton.
1879* Bridgeman, C. G. O., 11, Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn, London.
1879* Bridgeman, The Rev. Ernest R. O., Blymhill Rectory, Shifnal.
1913 Brindley, F. P., 18, Woodville Road, Leytonstone, Essex.
1913 Brough, J. V., Eversley, 29, Alexandra Villas, Finsbury Park, N.
1879 Brough, William Spooner, C.A., Leek.
1906 Broughton, Rev. R. C., The Vicarage, Prestbury, Cheshire.
1911 Browne, W., The Grange, Tipton, Staffs.
1913 Bruxner, H. R., Chaseley House, Rugeley.
1879 Burne, Miss, 5, Iverna Gardens, Kensington, W.
1911 Burton-on-Trent Free Library.
1879 Caddick, Edward, Wellington Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.
1892 Cambridge University Library (F. J. H. Jenkinson, Librarian).
1913 Canby, T., 33, Arboretum Road, Walsall.

1910 Carter, Geo. W., Eccleshall Castle, Staffs.
1879 Carter, W. Fowler, Maidsmere, Bromsgrove.
1910 Challinor, W. F., Pickwood, Leek.
1896 Chetham's Library, Manchester (Walter T. Brown, Librarian).
1913 Clarkson, Mrs. Jane, 31, Parkdale, Wolverhampton.
1913 Claughton, Sir G. Hy., Bart., C.A., The Priory, Dudley.
1910 Coghill, Archibald F., Brampton Tree House, Newcastle, Staffs.
1909 College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, London.
1879 Collett, The Rev. E., Retford, Notts.
1913 Congreve, Wm., Br.-General, Chartley Castle, Stafford.
1912 Constitutional Club Library, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.
1910 Cooper, Sir Richard Powell, Bart., C.A., Shenston Court, Lichfield.
1910 Cotterell, H. H., "Myvod," Foden Road, Walsall.
1908 Crallan, A. Arden, Miss, The Cottage, Hartmore, Godalming.
1879* Crewe, The Rt. Hon. the Marquess of, Crewe Hall, Cheshire.
1910 Crosbie-Dawson, G. J., May Place, Newcastle-under-Lyme.
1913 Cullwick, W. W., 33, Oaklands Road, Wolverhampton.
1879 Dartmouth, The Right Hon. the Earl of, Patshull, Wolverhampton.
1879 Davenport, Rev. G. Horatio, Foxley, Hereford.
1913 Dewsbury, Alfred, Eastmoor, Streetley, Sutton Coldfield.
1879* Downing, W., Aldine Cottage, Olton, near Birmingham.
1911 Dudley Free Library (J. F. Timmins, Secretary).
1879 Duignan, W. H., Gorway House, Walsall.
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1897 Farrer, W., Hall Garth, Carnforth.
1911 Faussett, H. J., Tamworth, Staffs.
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1896 Gibbons, W. P., Ruiton House, Dudley.
1896 Gill, George, Highgate House, Walsall.
1913 Gimson, T. W., Sunnyfield, Newcastle, Staffs.
1913 Gordon, Rev. W., Bishton, near Wolverhampton.
1879 Grazebrook, George, F.S.A., Odnall Cottage, Clent, nr. Stourbridge, 2 copies.
1909 Greene, H. Barratt, Elmhurst, Wolstanton, Staffs.
1913 Grout, Dr. J., 25, Oaklands Road, Wolverhampton.
1908 Grundy-Newman, S. A., F.R.Hist.S., F.S.A.Scot., Littleton Place, Walsall.
1911 Guildhall Library, London, E.C. (B. Kettle, Librarian).
1913 Guppy, H. G., M.A., The John Rylands Library, Manchester.
1902 Hambleton, A. J., C.C., Butterton, Leek.
1906 Handsworth Public Library, Soho Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.
1907 Hanley, Public Free Library (A. J. Milward, Chief Librarian).
1909 Harcourt, The Right Hon. Lewis, P.C., M.P., Nuneham Harcourt, Oxon.
1911 Harcourt, Robert, M.P., House of Commons, S.W.
1894 Harding, Geo., 64, Great Russell Street, London, W.C.
1879* Hardy, Sir Reginald, Bart., C.A., D.L., Dunstall Hall, Burton-on-Trent.
1913 Harrison, F., School House, Newcastle, Staffs.

1897 Hartley, George T., D.L., Wheaton Aston Hall, Stafford.
1890 Harvard College, Cambridge (Massachusetts, U.S.A.). (*Parcels per Messrs. Allen and Son, 14, Grape St., Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.*)
1879 Hatherton, The Right Hon. Lord, C.M.G., Teddesley, Penkridge.
1899 Hellier, Col. T. B. Shaw, Woodhouse, Womborne, Wolverhampton.
1904 Heywood, B. C. P., Wootton Lodge, Ellaston, Ashbourne.
1885 Holden, Sir Edward Thomas, Glenelg, Walsall.
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1910 Homer, Rev. F. A., 123, Beeches Road, West Bromwich.
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1909 Hopwood, C. H. (Dr.), Baker Street, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.
1913 Hughes, Mrs. T., The Old Vicarage, Weston, Stafford.
1905 Huntbach, A., Elm Tree House, Stone, Staffs.
1891 Hutchinson, Rev. Sandford William, Blurton Vicarage, Stoke-on-Trent.
1899 Inge, Rev. F. G., Walton Vicarage, Stafford.
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1895 Joyce, The Hon. Sir M. Ingle, 16, Great Cumberland Place, London.
1913 Keyworth, Rev. W. G., 51, Littleton Street, Walsall.
1902 Landor, Walter N., C.C., Chadscroft, Rugeley.
1908 Lane, H. J. H. V., King's Bromley Manor, Staffs.
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1881 Lichfield, The Right Rev. the Bishop of, Bishopstowe, Lichfield.
1879 Lichfield, The Librarian to the Dean and Chapter of, Cathedral Library.
1900 Lincoln's Inn, The Hon. Society of (A. F. Etheridge, Chief Librarian), Chancery Lane, W.C.
1886 Liverpool, The Free Public Library (G. T. Shaw, Chief Librarian).
1881 London Library, 12, St. James's Square, London, S.W.
1904 Longton Free Library (Joseph Hobson, Librarian), Longton.
1895 Lovatt, James, Brampton Hill, Newcastle-under-Lyme.
1913 Lowry, J., Woodfield Avenue, Penn, Wolverhampton.
1879 Macgregor, The Rev. W., Bolehall Manor House, Tamworth.
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1879* Madan, Mrs. F., Walford, Eccleshall.
1908 Mainwaring, Captain G. Cavenagh-, Colton House, Rugeley.
1881 Manchester Free Public Library (C. W. Sutton, Chief Librarian).
1904 Mander, Geoff. L., Wightwick Manor, Wolverhampton.
1906 Mander, Gerald P., The Mount, Wolverhampton.
1913 Mathie, Wm. S., Kelvin Ho., Bilston, Staffs.
1906 Meakin, Mrs., Darlaston Hall, Stone, Staffs.
1913 Meutz-Tolley, R., J.P., F.H.S., Moseley Court, Bushbury, Wolverhampton.
1911 Meynell, Francis H., Hoar Cross, Staffordshire.
1890* Mills, H. C., Georgia Gardens, Head Down, Niton, Isle of Wight.
1904 Mitchell, John E., Finwood, Rowington, Warwick.
1910 Moody, Dr. A. Rowley, Richmond House, Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent.
1879 Moreton, Loftus B., Moseley Hall, Wolverhampton.
1879* Morgan, William, Walton Lodge, Walton Hill, Stafford.
1881 Mort, Lieut.-Col. Frederick D., Stafford.
1899 Murray, Rev. D. S., Blithfield Rectory, Rugeley.
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1900 Newberry Library, The, Chicago, U.S.A. (*Parcels to care of Messrs. B. F. Stevens and Brown, 4, Trafalgar Square, London.*)
1895 Newcastle, The Free Library (Librarian, Newcastle-under-Lyme).
1910 New South Wales (Sydney), Public Library of (*care of Messrs. Truslove and Hanson, Publishers, 153, Oxford Street, London, W.*).
1897 New York Public Library, U.S.A. (*Parcels to care of Messrs. B. F. Stevens and Brown, 4, Trafalgar Square, London.*)
1910 Nicholson, Sir Arthur, C.C., Highfield Hall, Leek.
1911 Nicholson Institute, Leek (Kineton Parkes, Secretary).
1911 North Staffs. Field Club, Stone (W. Wells Bladen, Secretary).

1885* Okeover, Haughton E., Okeover, Ashbourne, Derby.
1911 Oldham, Capt. C. Dansey, Bellamour Lodge, Rugeley.

1911 Paice, Rev. A., The Vicarage, Walsall.
1913 Palmer, Rev. J. R., F.Ph. Eng., Gratwich Rectory, Uttoxeter.
1879 Parker, The Rev. F. P., Colton Rectory, Rugeley.
1913 Parker, Alfred D., Brook House, Lichfield.
1913 Parry, D. C., Croxdene, Bloxwich, Staffs.
1882 Philips, J. W., Heybridge, Tean, Stoke-on-Trent.
1913 Phillips, Rev. L., Theological College, Lichfield.
1888 Plymouth, The Right Hon. the Earl of, Hewell Grange, Redditch.

1905 Rae, C. D., Leigh, Stoke-on-Trent.
1896 Rollason, Arthur, 5, Union Street, Birmingham.
1881 Rotton, Sir J. F., Lockwood, Frith Hill, Godalming, Surrey.

1910 Salt, A. E. W., Faculty Club, University of California, San Francisco.
1879* Salt, C. J., Kelvin, Lichfield Road, Stafford.
1901 Salt, The Rev. F. J. (*care of William Salt Library*), Stafford.
1879* Salt, Sir Thomas A., Bart., Chatcull, Eccleshall, Staffs.
1879 Salt, The William (Salt) Library, Stafford. 2 copies.
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The Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society.
The Shropshire Archæological Society.
The Thoresby Society, Leeds.
The Yorkshire Archæological Society.
1908 Science and Art Library, Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington (G. H. Palmer, Librarian).
1882 Scott-Gatty, Sir A., Garter Principal King of Arms, College of Arms, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.
1879 Scrivener, A., Hanley.
1913 Shapcote, Rev. E. L., Hawkesyard, Rugeley.
1913 Shaw-Hellier, E., J.P., The Wombourne, Wodehouse, near Wolverhampton.
1913 Sheldon, H. B., B.A., Bentley Moor House, Walsall.
1913 Short, F. C., 15, Sutton Crescent, Walsall.
1902 Shrewsbury and Talbot, The Right Hon. the Earl of, Ingestre, Stafford.
1913 Shufflebotham, Miss Ada, Grosvenor Road, Newcastle, Staffs.
1913 Shufflebotham, F., C.C., 21, London Road, Newcastle, Staffs.
1913 Slater, A., Berkenscote, Walsall.

1882 Smith, William, 17, Queen Street, Leek.
1905 Sneyd-Kynnersley, Loxley, Uttoxeter.
1913 Solly, Rev. W., M.A., St. Philip's Vicarage, West Bromwich.
1879* Stanton, Miss Deborah, c/o Child and Co., 1, Fleet St., London.
1910 Staveley-Hill, H. S., M.P., Oxley Manor, Wolverhampton.
1881 Stoke-upon-Trent Free Library (A. C. Caddie, F.R.H.S., Librarian.
1879* Swinfen-Broun, Lieut.-Col. M., Swinfen Hall, Lichfield.
1879 Swynnerton, The Rev. Charles, Leonard Stanley, Stonehouse, Glos.

1887 Talbot, Rev. Arthur, Edgmond Rectory, Salop.
1903 Taylor, Rev. Thomas, M.A., F.S.A., St. Just-in-Penwith, Cornwall.
1901 Thorneycroft, Geo., Dunston Hall, Penkridge.
1913 Thorneycroft, Edward B., 24, Darlington St., Wolverhampton.
1879* Tildesley, Cecil, Penkridge, Staffs.
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1911 Tunstall Free Public Library, Tunstall.
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1909 Twyford, Thos. N., Whitmore Hall, Newcastle, Staffs.

1913 Venables, Rowland G., Oakhurst, Oswestry.
1910 Victoria, Public Library of, Melbourne, Australia. (*Parcels care of Agent-General for Victoria, Melbourne Place, Strand, London, W.C.*)

1885 Walsall Free Public Library (A. Morgan, Librarian), Walsall.
1913 Walton-Walker, Col. G., The Firs, West Bromwich.
1879* Ward, Mrs., Rodbaston, Penkridge.
1905 Washington, D.C., U.S.A., Library of Congress. (*Care of American Agency, 14, Grape Street, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.C.*)
1913 Waterhouse, Col. T. F., Penn Hall, Wolverhampton.
1911 Watney, V., Cornbury Park, Chartbury, Oxon.
1901 Watts, James, Abney Hall, Cheadle, Cheshire.
1906 Wedgwood, Mrs. Clement F., Barlaston Lea, Stoke-on-Trent.
1902 Wedgwood, Josiah C., M.P., C.C., Moddershall Oaks, Stone, Staffs.
1879 Wedgwood Institute (J. Wilcox Edge, C.A., J.P., Curator), Burslem.
1890 Wednesbury Free Public Library, Wednesbury.
1913 Wenger, A. N. C., Trentham, Staffs.
1881 West Bromwich Free Library, West Bromwich.
1911 Westwood, A., Harbourne Manor House, Harbourne.
1904 White, John H., 175, High Street, Camden Town, London, N.W.
1879 Whitehouse, Benjamin, Turls Hill, Sedgeley, near Dudley.
1906 Wiggin, Sir Henry A., Bart., Walton Hall, Eccleshall, Staffordshire.
1903 Wilson, Rev. R. A., Witley Rectory, Worcester.
1911 Wisconsin State Historical Society (*per Messrs. G. E. Steckert and Co., 2, Star Yard, Carey Street, Chancery Lane, W.C.*).
1882 Wolseley, Sir Charles Michael, Bart., Wolseley Park, Rugeley.
1881 Wolverhampton Free Library, Wolverhampton.
1908 Wood, J. M., Longland, Holkham, Norfolk.
1879* Wrottesley, The Rt. Hon. Lord, 8, Herbert Crescent, Hans Place, S.W.
1879* Wrottesley, The Hon. Mrs. George, 75, Cadogan Gdns, S.W.(Hon. Mem.).
1901 Wrottesley, Rev. F. J., Denstone Vicarage, Uttoxeter.

223 *Subscribing Members and* 3 *Honorary Members.*
250 *Copies printed in all.*

The William Salt Archæological Society.

ANNUAL MEETING, OCTOBER 26TH, 1912.

THE 34th Annual Meeting of the members and friends of the William Salt Archæological Society was held at the William Salt Library, Stafford, on Saturday afternoon. Lord Hatherton, C.M.G., was unanimously voted to the chair, and the attendance also included Mr. Josiah C. Wedgwood, M.P. (Hon. Secretary), Colonel F. R. Twemlow, D.S.O., Colonel F. D. Mort, V.D., the Revds. W. Beresford, E. R. O. Bridgeman, F. A. Homer, S. W. Hutchinson, D. G. Murray, and F. P. Parker, Messrs. G. N. Adams (Wolverhampton), P. W. L. Adams, S. A. H. Burne, F. T. Beck, W. Brown, W. F. Carter, J. T. Homer, A. Huntbach, W. N. Landor, T. Pape, A. Scrivener, and J. W. Bradley (Assistant Secretary). Apologies were received from the Earl of Lichfield, Lord Bagot, Sir Thomas Salt, Bart., the Revds. G. T. Royds and R. A. Wilson, Dr. Marsh Jackson, Mr. J. E. Mitchell (Smethwick), Mr. T. Taylor (St. Just-in-Penwith), Mr. H. H. Cotterell (Walsall), and Mr. C. Bridgeman.

The HON. SECRETARY read the Report of the Editorial Committee, which was as follows :—

The Editorial Committee submit a report on the work done during the past year, the proposals for next year's volume, work in hand, and on the financial position. The volume for 1912 was issued to subscribers in May. It contained the *Star Chamber Proceedings* down to the end of Edward VI.; *Lists of Sheriffs, Escheators, and Justices of the Peace for Staffordshire* from the earliest times to 1702, with careful identifications of the personages; an article by Mr. Swynnerton on *The Early Lords of Swynnerton;* and reviews of the whole of the volumes of *Lists and Indexes* published by the Public Record Office. An improvement has been made in the indexing by putting all names in their modern form and identifying the places mentioned in the text. The

volume for 1913 is well in hand, and 200 pages are passed for press. It will consist of the *Inquisitions* 1327–57 ; articles by Mr. C. G. O. Bridgeman and Mr. C. Swynnerton on the *Manors of Aston and Walton-by-Stone*, and on the *Manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme* respectively during the 13th and 14th centuries : *A Cartulary of Bromley-by-Newcastle*, by Mr. Swynnerton ; and we hope to complete with a series of collotype reproductions of the seals of Staffordshire gentry prior to 1500, taken from the seals at the British Museum. There are some 140 of these, and it is hoped at some future time to print similar reproductions of Staffordshire armorial seals now at the William Salt Library, at the Public Record Office (of which a catalogue will soon be published), and on deeds in private hands in the county. When completed, this will form an accurate armorial of Staffordshire families long prior to the visitations, and while heraldry was still a living science. We have still ready for printing (1) *Some Walsall Account Rolls of the* 15*th Century ;* (2) *Mr. Landor's Articles on the Holders of Benefices during the* 16*th and* 17*th Centuries ;* (3) *and on the Wolseley Family ;* (4) *The Tunstall Court Rolls ;* and (5) *A Biographical and Political Account of all the M.P.'s for Staffordshire from* 1258 to 1832, both by the Hon. Secretary ; (6) Mr. Parker's second volume on *Chetwynd's History of Pirehill ;* (7) *A Topographical Index of Place-names in the County*, by the Hon. Secretary, showing the original form of the names, and some corrections to explain Domesday. Our financial position is better than last year, as we have by sales transformed a deficit of £26 7*s.* 4*d.* into a balance of £12 0*s.* 6*d.*, and since the balance sheet was made up £11 11*s.* more has been paid in. The arrears at present amount to £18 18*s.* Two members are in arrears for three years, and the attention of the members in question will be called thereto. Mr. Dean, chartered accountant, of St. Mary's Grove, has acted to the satisfaction of your Committee as Financial Secretary during the year, assisting Mr. Bradley in his work. Finally, your Committee would like to secure the co-operation of all members and of the public in endeavouring to preserve permanently in the William Salt Library the vast mass of old deeds and court rolls which are in the hands of various old-established firms of family solicitors. With the break-up of many old estates, such as the Chartley or Great Barr properties, a number of ancient deeds that are not transferred to the new owners of parcels of the estate remain in the hands of the old solicitors. These, after a time, are found to take up too much room in the office, and are often destroyed or disposed of as waste paper. The Committee feel sure that if the fact were brought to the notice of these solicitors that the William

Salt Society would gladly house and look after these old documents for all time, they would in many cases allow us to have the opportunity of examining and preserving them. Even if they did not care to part with such deeds, many public-spirited lawyers would willingly allow representatives of the Society to examine and catalogue them, so that their existence and character might become known to historical students. Any suggestions from those who have more special knowledge as to how this might best be brought about would be welcomed by the Editorial Committee.

In presenting the Report, Mr. WEDGWOOD emphasized the need of the Society for more funds, stating that they had a vast mass of material ready for printing which he thought all the members of the Society would like to see in some permanent form. (Hear, hear.) He hoped to see a further increase in the number of members. The report of the Assistant Secretary showed that during the past year they had lost four members, three having resigned—Mr. Bamford, Mr. Chas. Godfrey Clarke, and Col. Dobson, whilst one had passed away—Mr. Brooke Robinson, who joined as one of the original members of the Society, and whose loss they deeply deplored. Still more regrettable was the loss of Mr. Okeover, of Okeover, the representative of one of the oldest Staffordshire families, as well as one of the oldest families in England. They hoped that his son would become a member and subscriber to the Society. The following new members had been added: Mr. G. N. Adams, Mr. W. F. Challenor, the Constitutional Club Library, the Guildhall Library, Mr. Francis Meynell, of Hoar Cross; the Nicholson Institute, Leek; and Mr. Robert Harcourt, M.P. The Society now consisted of 184 members, or one more than last year. This was satisfactory, especially considering that they had added three more libraries to their list. It was a tribute to the work of the Society when they found these old-established libraries becoming members and taking back volumes. Referring to the proposal to include collotype reproductions of the armorial seals of Staffordshire gentry prior to 1500 in the 1913 volume, Mr. Wedgwood said he thought it would be a good thing to carry this out, both from the seals at the British Museum and the Public Record Office, and thus form a very accurate and contemporary account of the heraldic bearings of Staffordshire families in the centuries before the Visitations of the College of Arms. He was not aware that this had been attempted in any other county, and it seemed to him that as the Public Record Office contemplated bringing out a catalogue of the enormous number

of seals in their keeping, the time was opportune for this work to be undertaken, and that Staffordshire ought to be the first county to undertake it. (Hear, hear.) The Rev. F. Parker, of Colton, had promised to let them have the second part of *Chetwynd's History of Pirehill* very shortly, and they would all be glad to see that permanently in print. In conclusion, Mr. Wedgwood said his time was so busily occupied that he should be grateful if the Society could see their way to take as much as possible of the work of editing the volumes off him. A good deal of his time was taken up in correcting proofs, writing a fair amount of original articles, etc. Mr. C. G. O. Bridgeman had promised to contribute to the Society's forthcoming volume, and he (the speaker) hoped that some other members would take up some special line of research, so as to provide really good matter for the volumes.

The Report was adopted, on the motion of the Rev. E. R. O. Bridgeman, seconded by the Rev. W. Beresford.

The accounts for the year ending September 15th, 1912, showed that the subscriptions amounted to £192 13*s.* 6*d.*, and sales to £17 6*s.*, making a total of £209 19*s.* 6*d.* There was a credit balance of £12 0*s.* 6*d.*, as against a debit balance on September 15th, 1911, of £26 7*s.* 4*d.*

The Rev. F. A. Homer, in moving the adoption of the accounts, suggested that the financial position of the Society might be further improved by the issue of a short pamphlet or leaflet setting forth the objects of the Society. This could be used with advantage when they were asking anyone to join the Society. It was astonishing to find how comparatively few people knew of the existence of the Society, or of its objects and work. By the use of a leaflet such as he suggested he believed that there would be no difficulty in doubling the present membership of the Society.

The Rev. W. Beresford seconded the motion.

The Hon. Secretary alluded to the sale of back volumes to members, and said it showed a laudable desire on their part to complete their sets. At the present time, 225 copies were printed, and 184 were disposed of to members. Ten were sent out to various individuals and libraries, leaving about 30 spare copies. To print 25 extra copies would cost an extra £4.

The Rev. W. Beresford said he could not help noticing how very good the attendance was at their annual meetings now compared with former years. Those who remembered the old volumes knew their value; they were produced by the then Secretary, the late General Wrottesley. Financially, they were in a better position than formerly, and he thought the members would agree with him in saying that the present volumes were quite as interesting as they were in the early days. Certainly there was no falling off, but rather an advance in the interest of the contents of each volume. Personally, he should be very sorry if the Hon. Secretary were to resign, and he hoped Mr. Wedgwood would be urged to reconsider his decision. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Wedgwood said he liked the work of the Society as much, if not more, than politics, and he should endeavour to carry it on with the excellent assistance he got from the Rev. W. Beresford and the other members of the Editorial Committee.

Mr. Landor supported the proposal to issue a leaflet setting forth the aims and objects of the Society, and Mr. J. T. Homer, appealing to the Hon. Secretary to continue the work, said the publications of the Society must tend in the future to increase immensely a knowledge of the history of Staffordshire and the country, and would, he believed, create a strong local patriotism and instinct which would be of the greatest service to them nationally and imperially.

Messrs. Landor and Homer were deputed to draw up the leaflet with respect to the Society's work.

The Chairman moved a vote of thanks to the Hon. Secretary and testified to the excellent work Mr. Wedgwood had done for the Society. (Hear, hear.) The motion was carried unanimously, and Mr. Wedgwood, in responding, said that after Lord Hatherton's remarks he should have no hesitation in continuing the secretarial duties. (Applause.)

A vote of thanks to Lord Hatherton for presiding brought the meeting to a close.

The William Salt Archæological Society.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1912.

1911.	*Receipts.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
To Subscriptions and past Arrears		192	13	6
„ Sales during year		17	6	0

Total Members on Sept. 15, 1911		183	
„ died since ...	1		
„ withdrawn	4		
		5	
		178	
Members added		6	
		184	£209 19 6

1911.		*Payments.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
By Balance due to Bank Sept. 15, 1911			26	7	4
Oct.	22.	By J. W. Bradley, Honorarium	15	0	0
„	„	„ J. W. Bradley, petty cash	1	17	4
„	„	„ W. H. Smith and Son. Account for 1909-10-11	3	8	10
Dec.	9.	„ J. S. Wilkie. Filing Cabinet		13	6
1912.					
Jan.	25.	„ J. Hitchman. Purchase of Vol. V, Part I		4	4
July	20.	„ T. Pape. Indexing 1912 Volume ...	4	1	0
„	„	„ Messrs. Harrison. Printing 225 copies of 1912 Volume	145	9	8
		„ Bank charges...		17	0
Sept.	15.	„ Balance in Bank	12	0	6
		Total ...	£209	19	6

(Signed)

WILLIAM MORGAN, *Hon. Auditor.*

JOSIAH C. WEDGWOOD, *Hon. Sec.*

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Vol. II, 1881.—Pipe Rolls of 1189-1216; Latin Text and Notes, *Eyton*. Staffordshire Cartulary, *Eyton*. Part II, Obligatory Knighthood, *temp.* Charles I., *Grazebrook*. Arms taken in the Visitation of 1663-4, *Grazebrook*. History of Blymhill, *The Hon. Geo. Bridgeman*.

Vol. III, 1882.—Plea Rolls of 1189-1216, *Wrottesley*. Final Concords of 1189-1216, *Wrottesley*. Staffordshire Cartulary, *Wrottesley*. Part II. The Visitation of 1583, *Grazebrook*. The Westeneys Family, *Parker*.

Vol. IV, 1883.—Plea Rolls of 1216-72, *Wrottesley*. Final Concords of 1216-72, *Wrottesley*. Ronton Priory Cartulary, *Wrottesley*. Part II, History of Church Eaton, *Bridgeman*.

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Vol. IX, 1888.—Assize and King's Bench Rolls, 1307-27, *Wrottesley*. Fine Rolls, 1307-27, *Wrottesley*. Part II, The Barons of Dudley, *Grazebrook*.

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Vol. XIII, 1892.—Plea Rolls, 1360-87, *Wrottesley*. Final Concords, 1559-73, *Wrottesley*.

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Vol. XVI, 1895.—Staffordshire, extracts from the Cheshire Plea Rolls, 1327–1413, *Wrottesley*. King's Bench and *Coram Rege* Rolls, 1377–1413, *Wrottesley*. Final Concords, 1589–1603. Rydeware Cartulary, *Wrottesley*.

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Vol. XVIII, 1897.—Final Concords, mixed counties, 1588–1603; ditto of cities, 1558–1603; ditto of Staffordshire, 1603–7. Part II, Calais and Crécy, Military Service at, *Wrottesley*.

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Vol. IV, N.S., 1901.—Final Concords of mixed counties touching Staffordshire, 1603–25; of Staffordshire, 1613–7. Plea Rolls, 1456–74, *Wrottesley*. Muster Roll, 1539 (Offlow Hundred).

Vol. V, N.S., 1902.—The Giffard Family, *Wrottesley*. Muster Roll, 1539 (Cuttlestone and Pirehill Hundreds).

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INQUISITIONS POST MORTEM, AD QUOD DAMNUM, Etc., STAFFORDSHIRE.

EDW. III.

TRANSCRIBED FROM THE MSS. IN THE WM. SALT LIBRARY.

(*Continued from Vol. for* 1911.)

INQUISITIONS EDW. III.

THOMAS EARL OF LANCASTER.

An Inquisition made at Tuttesbur' before John de Hampton, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Gloucester, Worcester, Hereford, Salop, Stafford and the Marches of Wales adjacent to the same Counties, on the 12th day of March, 1 Edw. III. (1327), by the oath of Robert Mavesin, Reginald de Hambur', William de Neuton, William atte Wod, Richard del Calengewod, Gilbert, Henry, Robert de Barton, Thomas de Rolleston, Nicholas de Rolleston, William de Radeware (Ridware), and William Davy, who say, upon their oath, that Thomas, late Earl of Lancaster, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, of the Lord Edward, late King of England, in chief, the Castle of Tuttesbur', with the manors, lands and tenements underwritten, in the County aforesaid; viz. Tuttesbur', which is worth yearly £20; Rolliston, worth yearly £40; Barton worth yearly £44; Adgaresl' . . . £10; Marchington . . . £60; Uttoxhatha . . . £40; and the Chace of Nedwod . . . £10; by the service of two knights' fees. Also they say that the same Earl held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, in the County aforesaid, Newcastle-under-Lyme with appurtenances of the aforesaid Lord Edward, father of the now Lord the King, in chief, by the service of one knight's fee, and it is worth yearly £100. Also they say that the same Earl held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the manor of Keel, with appurtenances, of the aforesaid Lord Edward, late King of England, in chief, by the service of the Fortieth part of one knight's fee, and it is worth yearly £10. Also they say that Henry de Lancaster, brother of the aforesaid Thomas, late Earl of Lancaster, is the next heir of the same Thomas, and he is forty years of age and upwards.

In witness whereof, etc.

Inquisitions made before William de Caynton, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Staffordshire, at Newcastle-under-Lyme, on Thursday next after the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary in March, in the 1 Edw. III., by the oath of Ranulph de Bromleye, William de Bromleye, Ralph Burgylun, Nicholas de Knutton, Robert de Blorton, Simon Gryffyn, Ralph le Porter, Ralph Swanyld, Richard Lagou, Henry Fliur, Richard son of Nicholas, and Stephen de Blorton; who say, upon their oath, that Thomas, late Earl of Lancaster, held in his demesne, as of fee, on the day of his death, of the Lord Edward, late King of England, the Manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme, with appurtenances, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee. And the aforesaid manor is worth yearly £100. Also they say that the same Earl held, in his demesne, as of fee on the day of his death, the Manor of Keel, as parcel of the same Manor of Newcastle, of the said Lord Edward, and its worth yearly £10, at the same terms. Also they say that Henry de Lancaster, etc., as before.

An Inquisition made at Newcastle-under-Lyme, before the Escheator of the Lord the King, on Tuesday next after the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary in March, in the 1 Edw. III. (1327), by the oath of John son of Thomas, William de Chaulden, Ranulph de Bromleye, Ralph Burgyllun, William de Bromleye, Jordan de L(avendon), Ralph Toles, Richard Lagou, Thomas de Knutton, John atte Halle, Richard Michel, and Adam de la Haye, who say upon their oath that Thomas, late Earl of Lancaster, held in his demense, as of fee, on the day of his death, the advowson of the church of Stoke, near Newcastle-under-Lyme, of the Lord Edward, late King of England, and that the said church is worth yearly £100. Also they say that the same Earl held the advowson of the church of Wulstanton of the Lord Edward II., and the said church is worth yearly £60. Also they say that the foundation of the Priory of Trentham, together with the manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme, at one time belonged to the late King, and that he gave and granted Edmund Earl of Lancaster the manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme with appurtenances together with the advowson of the churches of Wulstanton and Stoke; but concerning the Priory of Trentham they know nothing, except that

the late King had one voidance, and Thomas Earl of Lancaster had another voidance, and so thereof died seized. And they say that the advowson of the Priory of Trentham is worth yearly £100.

JOHN DE SUTTON.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire, reciting that John de Sutton and Margaret his wife have exhibited their Petition to the King and his Council alleging that, whereas Hugh le Despenser, junior, being actuated by cupidity, had asserted that the same John was an adherent of Thomas, late Earl of Lancaster, and was therefore taken and confined in the late King's prison at Westminster, until he had by his charter enfeoffed the same Hugh of the Castle of Dudeleye, and the Manors of Seggeleye, Swyneford, Rouleye Somery, and Prestwode, with appurtenances, in the County of Stafford, which are of the inheritance of the same Margaret, and had obtained Letters Patent of the same John—so being in prison—to deliver seizin of the same castle and manors to William de Aneston, for the aforesaid Hugh. The King being desirous to afford redress to the same John and Margaret, and wishing to be fully certified of the truth of the allegation in the same petition, has assigned Roger Hillary, Ralph de Perham, and Thomas de Norton to inquire, by a jury of the County of Stafford, in the presence of the Custos of the said lands and tenements, whether or not the aforesaid William delivered seizin of the said castle and manors to the same Hugh, as it is alleged, etc.—*Westminster*, 24 *February*, 1 *Edw. III.* (1327).

The mandate of Roger de Hillary, Ralph de Perham, and Thomas de Norton to the Sheriff of Stafford, commanding him, on behalf of the King, to cause to come before them, at the Castle of Duddeleye, on the Monday (23 March) next before the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Twenty-four men—as well knights as freeholders—to inquire, upon oath, whether or not William de Aneston, by the Letters Patent of John de Sutton, delivered seizin to Hugh le Despenser, junior, of the Castle of Duddeleye, and the manors of Seggeleye, Swyneford, Rouleye Somery, and Prestwod, with appurtenances in the County of Stafford, etc.

Hugh (Henry) de Bissebury, Sheriff of Staffordshire, thus answers :

This your Mandate is executed as appears in the Panel hereunto annexed :

Henry de Morf (sworn) mainperned by William Gilote and Robert atte Dike.

Ralph de Evenefeld (sworn) mainperned by Philip Bonde and Robert on the Grene.

Robert Buffrey (sworn) mainperned by William Phelise and Richard Felise.

William atte Herewode (sworn) mainperned by Robert Scot and Richard Gibbe.

William atte Lowe (sworn) mainperned by Richard atte Lowe and Robert atte Lowe.

William de Finchinfeld (sworn) mainperned by Richard de Penne and Walter de Penne.

William Buffrey (sworn) mainperned by Walter the Reve and Roger Colle.

William de Saltford (sworn) mainperned by Andrew Prest and Thomas Elliot.

Richard Leveson (sworn) mainperned by Thomas de Fulbrug and Thomas de Pek.

Roger Trescote (sworn) mainperned by John Ball and Henry Gall.

Adam de Sharshull (sworn) mainperned by William Gos and Robert Tommen.

John de Bradeleye (sworn) mainperned by Robert de Penne and John de Penne.

Warin de Trescote (sworn) mainperned by Thomas Pek and John Pleminne.

Richard de Holebacke (sworn) mainperned by Nicholas le Snowe and Richard Ball.

Thomas atte Broke (sworn) mainperned by William atte Broke and Hugh Gill.

Adam atte Lowe (sworn) mainperned by Hugh atte Lowe and Nicholas atte Lowe.

William atte Wodehouse (sworn) mainperned by Gilbert Pye and Robert Bullok.

John Roberds (sworn) mainperned by Thomas Grey and Robert Bullok.

William de Seggesleye (sworn) mainperned by John Ball and Richard Ball.

John le Deye (sworn) mainperned by William Cat and Robert Beket.

An Inquisition taken, on Monday next before the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, 1 Edw. III. (23 Mar., 1327), at the Castle of Duddeleye, in the presence of the Custos of the lands and tenements within written; before Roger Hillary, and Thomas de Norton thereto appointed by the King's writ to this Inquisition annexed, by the oath of Henry de Morf, Ralph de Evenefeld, Robert Buffrey, William atte Herwode, William atte Lowe, William de Finchinfeld, William Boffrey, William de Saltford, Richard Leveson, Roger de Trescote, Adam de Scharsulf, and John de Bradeleye; who say upon their oath that William de Aneston did deliver seizin to Hugh le Despenser, junior (to hold to him and his heirs for ever), of the Castle of Duddeleye, and the manors of Seggesleye, Swyneford, Roueleye Somery and Prestwode, with appurtenances in the County of Stafford, pursuant to the Letters Patent of John de Sutton, the date of which was at Westminster, on the day of St. Benedict the Abbot, 17 Edw. II. (21 Mar., 1324), which said Castle and tenements are of the inheritance of Margaret the wife of the said John; and that John le Botiler of Tewkesbury was there present at that time, in the name of the said Hugh, and took the fealty of the tenants of the castle and manors aforesaid, and that the said William did, after the seizin so delivered for the said Hugh, immediately return and testify to the same Hugh the delivery of the seizin aforesaid in the form aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

ABBEY OF CROXDEN.

This Inquisition is too much torn and obliterated to be read; but it appears to be—An Inquisition made before the Sheriff of Salop and Stafford, at Le Gelet near Albryghton, in the confines

of the same Counties, on the 25 May, 1 Ed. III. (1327), relative to lands and rent, in the vill of Oke, in the County of Stafford, granted to the Abbot and Convent of Crokesden, by Robert Hamond and Roger Page.

WILLENHALL.

Writ addressed to William Trussel, the King's Escheator, on this side the Trent to inquire, by a Jury of his Bailiwick, whether, or not, it will be to the damage or prejudice of the King, or any other person, if the King do grant to Richard Gerveise of Wolvernehampton that he may give and assign one messuage, forty acres of land, and four acres of meadow, and the mediety of one mill, with appurtenances in Willenhale, to a certain chaplain to perform divine service daily in the Chapel of the vill of Willenhale, for the souls of the said Richard and Felicia his wife, and for the souls of their fathers and mothers, brothers, sisters and children and their ancestors and all the faithful deceased, etc.—*Lincoln*, 23 *September*, 1 *Edw. III.* (1327).

An Inquisition made before the King's Escheator at Wolvernehampton, on Thursday the morrow of the Apostles Simon and Jude, 1 Edw. III. (29 Oct., 1327), by the oath of William de Saltford, Roger de Cresete, Richard Levesone, John de Lappeleye, Adam de Schareshulf, William de Boys, Thomas in le Lone, Reginald Fraunceys, John Robdes, Simon Levesone, Adam Attechirchedore, and William Le Newemann, Jurors; who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the Lord the King, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid messuage, land, etc., are holden of the Lord John de Handloo, Knight, Lord of Stoweheth, the Lord Robert de Dunham and the Lord Thomas de Legh, canons of the church of the Apostles Peter and Paul of Wolvernehampton, by the service of 2*s.* 1½*d.* yearly for all services,—saving two appearances yearly at the Court of the aforesaid Lords. And they say that the aforesaid messuage, etc., are worth yearly 40*s.*, in all issues, according to the true value of the same. And John de Handloo, Robert de Dunham, and Thomas de Leigh are mesne Lords between the King and

the aforesaid Richard for the aforesaid messuage, etc. And two messuages, two carucates of land, twenty acres of meadow, two mills, and a rent of 60*s.* with appurtenances in Wolvernehampton and Tunstall will remain to the same Richard, beyond the donation and assignment aforesaid. And the messuages, land, meadow, mill, and rent aforesaid are holden of John de Handloo aforesaid, and the Dean and Chapter of Wolvernehampton, by the service of half a mark yearly, and making two appearances yearly at the Court of the aforesaid Lords. And the messuage, land, meadow, and mill and rent aforesaid are worth yearly twenty marks in all issues. And they say that the aforesaid lands and tenements remaining to the same Richard, beyond the donation and assignment aforesaid, are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

THEOBALD DE VERDON.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire reciting that, whereas the Lord Edward, the King's father, on the 7th of September, in the 12 Ed. II. did, of the two parts of the lands and tenements which belonged to Theobald de Verdoun, deceased, who, on the day of his death, held *in capite* of the said King Edward, and which lands and tenements, by reason of the death of the said Theobald, were taken into the hands of the King's said father, assign to Thomas Fournival, junior, and Joan his wife (eldest daughter and one of the co-heirs of the aforesaid Theobald, who had sufficiently proved her age), the castle and manor of Alveton with its members Bredeleye, Farleye, Coten, Wotton, Denston, Staunton, Strongeshull, Bockenhale, Fenton, and Barderdeleye (Balterley), and their appurtenances in the County of Stafford, which had been valued at £29 11*s.* 4*d.* yearly; to have, as the purparty and share of the same Joan—and the said King Edward did take the fealty of the same Thomas for the purparty aforesaid, and did deliver the same to the said Thomas and Joan, as appears by the Rolls of the Chancery of the King's said father. And now Bartholomew de Burghersh, who took to wife Elizabeth, another of the daughters and heirs of the said Theobald, and William Le Blount, who took to wife Margery,

the third daughter and heir of the said Theobald (which said Elizabeth and Margery have sufficiently proved their ages as appears by the proofs remaining in Chancery), have petitioned the King that they may have the reasonable purparties of the same Elizabeth and Margery assigned of the lands and tenements, which, on the day of his death belonged to the said Theobald, the father of the said Elizabeth and Margery, and which on account of the death, were taken into the hands of the King's said father—asserting that there are in the said castle and manor of Alveton, with its members aforesaid (which had been valued at £29 11*s.* 4*d.* yearly as aforesaid), more than £60 of annual rent, and divers lands of which no mention is made in the valuation or assignment aforesaid, whereupon they, the aforesaid Bartholomew, Elizabeth, William and Margery, have besought the King, that the aforesaid castle, manor and hamlets may be resumed into the King's hands, and the same, together with the other lands and tenements, which belonged, on the day of his death, to the said Theobald, may be extended according to the true value of the same, and divided into three equal parts, according to the extent of the same so made, and their positions assigned and delivered to the same heirs and coparceners. The King desiring that justice may be done in the matter commands the aforesaid Escheator to summon the said Thomas and Joan into the King's Chancery, on the morrow of the Holy Trinity (the said Bartholomew, Elizabeth, William, and Margery having had that day appointed for them), to show what they may have to say why the aforesaid castle and manor and hamlets, with their appurtenances, should not be resumed into the King's hands, and another extent of the same made, and further to abide whatsover the Court shall decide in the premises, etc. Dated at *Nottingham*, 3 *May*, *in the* 1 *Edw. III.*

Indorsed.—The answer of Henry de Bysshebury, the Sheriff. I have made known to Bartholomew de Burghersh and Elizabeth, his wife, the contents of this writ by Henry de Wodehouse and William Norreys.

Writ addressed to Michael de Meldon, reciting the writ dated 3rd May, addressed to the Sheriff of Staffordshire, and appointing the said Michael de Meldon to receive the attorneys

of William Le Blount and Margery, his wife, and to send the names of the said attorneys into the King's Chancery, etc. Dated at *York* 1 *June in the* 1 *Edw. III.* (1327).

Indorsed.—William Le Blount and Margery, his wife, have put in their stead John de Lodelowe, and John de Chester, as their attorneys against Thomas de Fournivall and Joan, his wife, according to the tenor of this writ.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire reciting that whereas the Lord Edward, late King of England, the King's father, in the partition made in the late King's Chancery, of two parts into four parts of the lands and tenements, which belonged to Theobald de Vordun, deceased, between the heirs and coparceners of the same inheritance; viz., between Joan the wife of Thomas de Fournivall, Elizabeth and Margery, sisters of the same Joan, daughters of the said Theobald, begotten of his first wife, and Isabella, daughters of the same Theobald, sister of the same Joan, Elizabeth and Margery, begotten on Elizabeth, the widow of John de Burgo, the second wife of the said Theobald, did, at the suit of the same Thomas de Fournivall, and the aforesaid Joan his wife, assign, on the 7th day of September, in the 12 Edw. II., to the said Thomas and Joan the castle and manor of Alveton with its members as before. The King, as well for himself as for the aforesaid Isabella, who is under age and in the King's custody, and also for the other heirs and coparceners of the same inheritance, being desirous to do whatever is just and right in the premises, commands the said Sheriff to summon the said parties into the King's Chancery, etc. Dated at *York*, 18 *June*, 1 *Edw. III.*

Indorsed.—The answer of Henry de Bysshebury, Sheriff. I have caused Thomas de Fournivall, junior, and Joan his wife, to know the contents of this writ by Thomas the Smith of Alveton, and Richard le Bowyer of the same place. At which day the aforesaid Joan came, by John de Tamworth, her attorney, and produced Letters of Protection dated 1st July, for the aforesaid Thomas, who was in the King's service in Scotland, with the clause that he be quit until the Feast of

St. Michael next ensuing, which is allowed to him as far as the taking the lands, etc., into the King's hands; but because it was considered that the lands and tenements which belonged to the aforesaid Theobald should be revalued, except the dower, it is told to the aforesaid coparceners that the said lands and tenements shall be revalued.

A mandate to the Sheriff of Staffordshire to summon Thomas de Fournivall, junior, and Joan his wife, and Bartholomew de Burghersh and Elizabeth his wife (at the suit of William Le Blount and Margery his wife), to be in the King's Chancery on the morrow of the Feast of St. James the Apostle, to receive their several portions of the lands and tenements which did belong to Theobald de Verdon, father of the said Joan, Elizabeth, and Margery.

Indorsed.—The answer of John de Hynkeleye, the Sheriff. This writ was returned to Ralph de Ispannia, Bailiff of Tottemoneslowe—the Liberty of Isabella, Queen of England—who has the return of all writs, and who did nothing thereupon.

Several other writs of summons were addressed to the said parties to be in the King's Chancery at certain days therein mentioned to abide the Judgment of the Court, etc.

Alveton.—Extent of the lands and tenements which belonged to Theobald de Verdan, lately deceased, in the manor of Alveton with its members, before the King's Escheator at Trentham on Wednesday next before the Feast of St. Dionysius in the 1 Edw. III. (7 Oct., 1327), by the oath of Richard Le Verney, Richard de Delves, William de Chaulden, Robert de Onyleye, Ralph Burgiloun, Robert de Combrugge, William Meycoke, Henry Attebrugge of Roucestor, William de Bromleye, Richard de Whythurst, Richard de Careswell, and Henry de Ethelaston (Ellaston); who say upon their oath that there is there a certain castle surrounded by a proper stone-wall, which is worth, with the easements of the houses within the walls, yearly 13*s.* 4*d.* in the time of peace, but worth more in the time of war, for the security and safety it affords to men and goods; and there is there a certain foreign baily, the herbage of which is

worth yearly 12*d.*; and there is there a certain dovecot, which is worth yearly 2*s.*, and no more, because it is in ruin. Also there are there two water-mills under one covering, which are worth by the year £6 13*s.* 4*d.*, and thereof, there ought to be paid to the abbey of Crokesdene annually 40*s.* of ancient alms. Also there are there five carucates of arable land in demesne, which are worth yearly £6 13*s.* 4*d.*, each carucate worth 26*s.* 8*d.* There are there ten acres of meadow, which are worth yearly 15*s.*—each acre worth 18*d.* Also there is there a certain enclosed park, which contains within itself 480 acres of land, the profit of which in herbage is worth yearly £4—three parts of which are covered with large oaks—there is no underwood there—the pannage there is worth one year with another 26*s.* 8*d.* There are there within the park 20 acres of meadow worth yearly 33*s.* 4*d.*—each acre is worth 20*d.* Also there is there a rent of assize of free tenants 30*s.*, and there is there of rent of assize of cottages 11*s.* 5*d.* Also the tenants' works in autumn there are worth yearly 5*s.* 10*d.* Also there is there of foreign rent of Free tenants 28*s.* 9*d.* Also from the Lord of Careswell (Caverswall) 10*s.* Also from the Lord of Ipstanes 10*s.*, and thereof there is due to the Lord of Maddeleye 5*s.* Also from Rouwenhale 21*d.* Also from Onenecote 2*s.* Also from Neubold and Heynmer (?) (Consall) 5*s.* Also there is there of rent of assize, ¾ lb. of pepper worth 9*d.*, and ½ lb. of cumin worth 1*d.*, at the terms aforesaid. Also there are there 15 common ovens, in which all the tenants in the vill of Alveton are bounden to bake their bread, and they are worth yearly 16*s.*, together with the Toll of beer from certain brew-houses there. Also they say that the pleas and perquisites of the Court there are worth yearly 66*s.* 8*d.*

Bradley (*in the Moors*).—Also they say that there is at Bradley, which is a member of Alveton: from rent of assize of tenants at will 40*s.*; and the works of ten tenants there are worth yearly in Autumn 10*d.*

Farleye.—Also they say that there is at Farleye, which is a member of Alveton, from rent of assize of two free tenants 5*s.* Also there is there from rent of assize of ten tenants at will 50*s.* Also there are there four cottagers who pay to the Lord yearly 7*d.* Also the works of the tenants there are worth yearly 14*d.*, and there is there one bovate and a half of land, in the hands of the

Lord for default of a tenant, which was accustomed to render yearly 7*s.* 6*d.*, and now the pasture is worth yearly 3*s.* 9*d.*, and there is there a certain pasture in severalty which is called Wrybbedon (Rebdon), which is worth yearly 10*s.*, and there is there a certain wood which is called Ocuallemor (Oakamore), the profit of which is worth yearly 40*d.*

Coten.—Also they say that there is at Coten, which is a member of Alveton, from rent of assize of 6 tenants at will 10*s.*

Wutton.—Also they say there is at Wutton, which is a member of Alveton, one messuage with a curtilage, which is worth yearly 3*s.* Also they say that there are there six score acres of arable land, which are worth yearly 20*s.*—each acre is worth 2*d.* Also there are there three acres of meadow which are worth yearly 3*d.* . . . . And there is there a certain water-mill which is worth yearly 10*s.* Also a certain enclosed park, which contains 200 acres of land, the profit of which, in herbage, pannage and the sale of underwood, is worth yearly 40*s.*, the half of the said park is covered with large oaks. Also there is of rent of assize of three free tenants 13*s.* Also of rent of assize of tenants at will and at Rommeseude (Ramsor), which is a member of the same, £4 16*s.*; and there is there from rent of assize of cottagers yearly 4*s.* 6*d.*; and there is there a certain common pasture, the profit of which is worth . . . Also they say that the pleas and perquisites of the court there are worth yearly 40*s.*

Denston.—Also they say that there is at Denston, which is a member of Alveton, 1 ac. of meadow 3*s.* Also of rent of assize of two free tenants 3*s.*, and of rent of assize of six tenants at will 20*s.* 1*d.*

Stanton.—Also at Stanton, which is a member of Alveton, one capital messuage, with a curtilage and croft and a certain meadow adjoining 6*s.* 8*d.*; and six score acres of arable land 20*s.*, and a certain pasture in severalty 10*s.*; and a certain heath, the profit of which in turtary is worth yearly 2*s.*

Strongeshull.—Also at Strongeshull, which is a member of Alveton, of rent of assize of three free tenants 29*s.* 7*d.*, and they give to the Lord of Alveton two quarters of corn, each quarter worth 4*s.*, for their relief of suit of his mill forever.

Bukenhale.—Also they say that there is at Bukenhale, which is a member of Alveton, one water-mill 26*s.* 8*d.*; and the tenant

thereof pays 6*s.* annually for having foreign suit. Also of rent of assize, as well of free tenants as of tenants at will, £8 6*s.* 4¼*d.* at the terms of St. Michael and Palm Sunday by equal portions; also the pleas and perquisites of Court are worth yearly 10*s.*; and 13*s.* 4*d.* from a certain custom called *Stuth* to be paid every third year, and so the custom is worth yearly 4*s.* 5¼*d.* and the third of a farthing.[1]

Fenton Culvert.—Also at Fenton, which is a member of Alveton, of rent of assize of free tenants £7 17*s.* 4*d.*, and 13*s.* 4*d.* to be received every third year from a certain custom called *Stuth.* Also the pleas and perquisites of the Court there are worth yearly 40*s.*

Balterdeleye.—Also at Balterdeleye, which is a member of Alveton, one capital messuage, with a croft and a certain curtilage, worth yearly 10*s.* Also three acres of pasture 6*s.*, viz., each acre 1*s.* (?) Also of rent of assize of free tenants £9 12*s.* 6*d.* Also the pleas and perquisites of the Court there are worth yearly 13*s.* 4*d.*

In witness, etc.

Indorsed.—Thomas de Furnivall, junior, and Joan his wife, Bartholomew de Burghersh and Elizabeth his wife, and William Le Blunt, and Margery his wife, have been severally summoned to the taking of this Inquisiture. And the aforesaid Thomas for himself and the aforesaid Joan, and the aforesaid William and Margery, by John de Ludelowe, their attorney, have appeared; but the aforesaid Bartholomew and Elizabeth came not, nor did they send any one in their stead. Isabella, the fourth daughter and co-heir of the said Theobald, is within age, and in the custody of the Lord the King.

Extent of the lands and tenements which belonged to Theobald de Verdun on the day of his death, made at Stafford before the King's Escheator on the . . . day of May in the 2 Edw. III., by the oath of William de Hugeford, William de . . . , Richard de Gretuywyz (Gratwich), Richard de Newton, Ralph de Burgulun, Richard de Smalrys, Richard Shyrard, Henry de Peshale, Richard de la Wythurst, Richard Wolrich, William, son of Geoffrey de Kyngeston, and William

[1] *I.e.*, a marc every three years, *cf.* Vol. XI, p. 235, Vol. 1912, p. 345.

de la Lee, jurors; who say upon their oath that the castle of Alveton, which belonged to the said Theobald on the day of his death, is worth yearly 20*s.*, and the close outside the castle is worth yearly 3*s.* 4*d.*; and there is there a certain dovecot which is worth yearly 2*s.*; and there are there five carucates of land £8. There are without the park ten acres of meadow 20*s.*, and there are within the park twenty acres of meadow 40*s.*, and the herbage of the Park there is worth yearly . . . , and the pannage of the said park 40*s.*, and two water-mills £8, besides 40*s.* which ought to be rendered to Crokesden, and the pasture there is worth yearly 2*s.*, and the rent of assize there, with the oven and toll, is worth yearly £10; and there are there . . . of pepper and half a pound of cumin of rent which are worth yearly 10*d.*; and the pleas and perquisites of court there are worth yearly . . . of Alveton, are worth yearly 5*d.*, and the foreign rent, viz., from the Lord of Careswall, is worth yearly 10*s.*; from the Lord of . . . ; from the Lord of Stanton 10*s.*; from the Lord of Ronehal (Rownal) 7*s.*; from Onecote 2*s.*; from Neubold 5*s.*; from Coneshale 18*d.*; there is a certain underwood there worth yearly 2*s.*; there is also there a certain rent arising from Kyrkesleye, which is worth yearly 12*d.*; and there is there a certain rent arising from the grange of Caldon, which is worth yearly 13*s.* 4*d.*

Total, £47 12*s.* 4*d.* in clear.

And the said jurors say that there is at *Wotton* a certain messuage, 3*s.* 4*d.*; and one carucate of land 40*s.*, and four acres of meadow 8*d.*, and the pasture of the park there 40*s.*, and the pannage of the said park 13*s.* 4*d.*, and the underwood there 3*s.* 4*d.*, and one water-mill 10*s.*, and the pasture there 6*s.* 8*d.*, and the rent of assize there, as well from free-holders as natives, is worth yearly with the customary works £12; and the pleas and perquisites of the court there are worth yearly 40*s.*

Total, £10 4*s.* 8*d.*

And there is at *Stanton*, one messuage with a croft 6*s.* 8*d.*; and one carucate of arable land 26*s.*; and six acres of meadow 28*s.* 8*d.*, and a certain turbary and heath there 3*s.* 4*d.*; and the agistment there on the common pasture 20*s.*, and the rent of assize there 17*s.*, and the customary works there 5*s.*, and the pasture of Toraldeswade 20*s.*, and the pasture of Wyteleye (?) 5*s.*

Total, £8 2*s.* 4*d.*

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And the rent of assize at *Farleye* is worth yearly 110*s.*; and the rent there, from customary tenants, 8*s.*; and the pasture of Wrebedon, in severalty, 20*s.*; and the pasture of Okewallemor 3*s.* 4*d.*

Total, £7 16*s.* 0*d.*

And the rent of Assize at *Rammesovere* (Ramsor) is 6*s.* 4*d.*; and the agistment in the common moor 3*s.* 4*d.*; and a certain rent arising from the Priory of Calewych, for having licence of common pasture, 13*s.* 4*d.* Total, 23*s.*

And the rent of assize at *Coten* is worth yearly 50*s.*, and the mill there 13*s.* 4*d.* Total, 63*s.* 4*d.*

And there is at *Bradeleye* a certain rent of assize, with the customary works, £10.

And the rent of assize at *Sponne* 50*s.* 8*d.*

And the rent of assize at *Denston* 100*s.*, and one acre of meadow there 2*s.* Total, 102*s.*

And the rent of assize at *Strongeshul* (Stramshall) 32*s.* 8*d.*, and the multure there 18*s.* Total, 50*s.* 8*d.*

And the rent of assize at *Shene* 18*s.* 4½*d.*

And the rent of assize at *Wytston* 36*s.* 8*d.*

And the rent of assize at *Bokenhal* £10 1*s.* 4¾*d.*

And one water-mill there is worth yearly 26*s.* 8*d.*, and the pleas and perquisities of the Court there are worth yearly 6*s.* 4*d.* Total, £11 14*s.* 4¾*d.*

And the rent of assize at *Fenton* £8 19*s.* 9*d.*, and the pleas and perquisites of the Court there 3*s.* 4*d.* Total, £9 3*s.* 1*d.*

And the rent of assize at *Bidulf* 21*s.* 8*d.*

And there is at *Balterdeleye* one messuage . . . worth yearly. . . . Total, £12 10*s.* 10*d.*

Sum total of the whole, £141 12*s.* 0¼*d.*

In witness, etc.

Extent of the lands in the County of Stafford which did belong to Theobald de Verdun, deceased, made by Simon de Bereford, the Escheator.

The Manor of Alveton with appurtenances valued in clear at £47 12*s.* 4*d.*

The Manor of Wotton with appurtenances valued at £48 4*s.* 8*d.*; Stanton £8 2*s.* 8*d.*; Farleye £7 1*s.* 4*d*; Rammesovere 23*s.*; Coten 63*s.* 4*d.*; Bradeleye £10; Sponne 50*s.* 8*d.*;

Denston 102*s.*; Strongeshull 50*s.* 8*d.*; Shene 18*s.* 4½*d.*; Wytston 36*s.* 8*d.*; Bokenhale £11 11*s.* 4¾*d.*; Fenton £9 3*s.* 1*d.*; Bedulf 21*s.* 8*d.*; Balterdeleye £12 10*s.* 10*d.*

LEA HEATH IN STRETTON.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Walter de Strangelford that he may enfeoff John son of William de Kynewaston, William, Robert, and Richard his sons, Adam Walteres, Alan in the Holt, and John son of Alan Simondes with fifteen acres of land with appurtenances in Over Leyeheth, which are held of the King *in capite*, as it is said: To have and to hold to the same John, William, Robert, and Richard, Adam, Alan, and John and their heirs of the King and his heirs by the services therefore due and accustomed for ever.—Dated at *Nottingham*, 1 *January*, *Edw. III.* (1328).

Inquisition made at Pencriz, before the King's Escheator, on Sunday in the Feast of the Close of Easter in the 2 Edw. III.; by the oath of John de Otherton, Robert de Cungreve, William de Engelton, Robert de Lynhull, John Othetutheme, William de Bromshulf, Hugh le Bachiler, Thomas Roberd of Levedale, Richard de Waltham, John de Gauleye, Walter del Park and Richard Dun; who say, upon their oath, that it is not, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid fifteen acres of land are holden of the Lord the King *in capite*, by the service of five shillings by the year. And the fifteen acres of land are worth by the year six shillings beyond the service aforesaid. And they say that there remain to the aforesaid Walter, beyond the aforesaid fifteen acres of land, a messuage and a nook of land with appurtenances in the vill of Stretton; which are holden of John son of Robert Peveril, Lord of Stretton, by the service of two pence to be paid to the aforesaid Lord of Stretton for all service. And they say that the aforesaid messuage and the aforesaid nook of land are worth by the year in all issues five shillings.

In witness, etc.

ROGER DE SWYNNERTON.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King, or of others, or to the decrease of the King's farm of the County of Stafford, if he grants to his beloved and faithful Roger de Swynnerton, that he may have in his Manor of Swynnerton, view of Frankpledge, with all things to the same view pertaining; Also Infangenthef and Outfangenthef in the manor aforesaid: And the amendment of the assize of bread and ale broken by the men and tenants of the same manor. To have and to hold to the same Roger and his heirs for ever.—Dated at *Northampton the* 11 *May*, 2 *Edw. III.* (1328).

Inquisitions made before the Escheator of the Lord the King at Stone, in the presence of the Sheriff of Stafford on Thursday next after the Feast of St. Lucy Virgin (15 December, 1328), viz., by the oath of William de Chetewynde, Richard de Verney, John de Hodenet, Robert Bythewater, William de Huggeford, William de Chauldon, Robert de Onyleye, William Joror, Ralph Tolys, Ralph Burguylun, Henry Uwynet and Thomas de Stalynton', who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor the prejudice of the King, nor of others, neither to the decrease of the farm of the County aforesaid, if the Lord the King grants, etc. And they say that four parts of the Manor aforesaid are holden of the Baron of Stafford, by the service of one knight's fee; and the fifth part of the Manor aforesaid, is worth by the year in all issues according to the true value of the same £40. And they say that the same view of Frankpledge and the other liberties aforesaid may be worth by the year in all issues 6*s.* 8*d.*

In witness, etc.

WILLIAM LE VENOUR.

A Mandate to Simon de Bereford, Escheator on this side Trent. Reciting that the King has heard that William son and heir of Walter le Venour is an idiot, and is not able to regulate himself nor his lands, goods nor chattels. The King wishing to provide for the safety of the same William, and to be fully certified of his condition, lest his lands or tenements should be

alienated, or his goods and chattels fall into decay, commands the Escheator to go to the same William, and diligently examine into his state, viz., whether he be an idiot, and if he be an idiot, then by the oath of good and lawful men diligently to enquire whether he has been an idiot from his birth, or whether from any other period, and if from any other period, then from what period, how and in what manner, and if he has lucid intervals; and what lands and tenements there are of the inheritance of the same William and where; and of what persons they are holden, by what service, and how, and in what manner; and in what person or persons' hands they are; and how much they are worth by the year; and of what age the same William is; and to certify the facts to the King in his Chancery in 15 days from the day of St. Hillary.—*At New Sarum*, 28 *October*, 2 *Edw. III.* (1328).

William le Venour, of whom mention is made in this Writ, appeared before me personally; and I diligently examined as to his condition; I found him discreet enough, and yet nevertheless I caused an inquisition thereof to be made, which I send you, sewed to this writ.

Inquisition made at Lichfield, before the Escheator of the Lord the King, on the 12th February in the 3 Edw. III.; by the oath of William de Thamenhorn, Ralph de Thikkebrom, Thomas de Hulton, Richard Wyth, Henry in le Mor, Richard Fordiane, Thomas Basset, Henry de Gunston, William de Hampton, Reginald de Wodynges, Henry de Thorlemer, and Nicholas de Bedenhale. Who say upon their oath that William son of Walter le Venour was not an idiot at the time of his birth, nor has he been one from the period of his birth until now. And they say that there are a toft eight acres of land and one acre of meadow of the inheritance of the aforesaid William in Great Curborough near Lychfield, and they are holden of the Bishop of Chester, by the service of 5*s.* 8*d.* by the year. And they say that the same lands and tenements are in the hands of Hugh le Rider, and are worth by the year according to the true value of the same, in all issues 12*d.* beyond the service aforesaid. And they say that the aforesaid William is of the age of sixty years and upwards.

In witness, etc

HUGH LE DESPENCER.

Mandate to William le Botiller of Wemme and Roger Hillary, reciting that the King by his Letters Patent had granted to Roger de Swynnerton the elder all the lands and tenements, with appurtenances in the County of Stafford, which lately belonged to Hugh le Dispenser, Earl of Winchester, the King's enemy and traitor, and which had come into the King's hands as escheats by reason of the forfeiture of the same Hugh. To have and to hold to the said Roger de Swynnerton, as in the same Letters is contained. The King, wishing to be certified of the true value of the said tenements, assigns the same William le Botiller and Roger Hillary to cause an extent to be made thereof by the oath of true and lawful men.—*At Guldeford*, 10 *March*, 3 *Edw. III.* (1329).

Extent and Inquisition made before William le Botiller of Wemme and Roger Hillary, at Stafford on Thursday in . . . in the 3 Edw. III. by the oath. . . . Beresford, Richard de Okovere, William Moycok, Adam de Narwedale, Henry son of Roger de Stansop, William le . . . , Henry de Wynleye, Roger Wryde, Philip de Salt, Henry le Palfreymon, William Sevacle and Henry Fremon, who say upon their oath that Hugh le Despenser, late Earl of Winchester, held in this County the lands and tenements within written: viz. (one third) of the Manor of Alstanesfeld with appurtenances; in which there are in demesne one messuage worth 2*s.*, sixty acres of land whereof . . . 3 pence. Also 5 acres of meadow, each worth by the year 8*d.* Also the third part of two water-mills 20*s.* . . . Also there are in the same third part of the Manor three free tenants who hold certain free tenements by fealty and the service of 22½*d.* by the year, for all service; and nine bovates of land which are holden in bondage, each bovate worth 4*s.* Also Richard de Okovere holds in the same third part of the Manor two messuages and forty-one acres of land with appurtenances for term of life, according to the custom of the Manor, and he renders by the year 26*s.* 8*d.* Also Elias Moycok holds there in the same Manor one plot of meadow, which is called Bothesleye, and he pays by the year 8*s.* Also there are there

six cottages, each whereof is worth by the year 16*d.* There is also in the same Manor of Alstanesfeld a certain free chace, which is called Malbacfrith,[1] one part of which chace is rented to divers tenants to hold for term of life, according to the custom of the Manor; and the third part of the aforesaid land so rented, late belonging to the aforesaid Hugh, is worth by the year 50*s.*; and the remainder of the said chace lies for pasture which is agisted yearly, and the third part of the agistment of the same, viz., the part belonging to the same Hugh, is worth by the year 13*s.* 4*d.* There is also in the said Manor a certain free Court which is holden every three weeks and view of Frankpledge which is holden twice a year, and the third part of the profit of the same, which belonged to the same Hugh, is worth by the year 10*s.* Also the same Hugh held within the aforesaid Manor a certain pasture, which is called Cornford, which is worth by the year 40*s.* Also Nicholas de Denston held of the aforesaid Hugh at Denston, one messuage, one mill and one carucate of land with appurtenances, freely, by fealty and service of 15*s.* by the year, for all service. Also John de Staunton, John de Tettebury, Reginald de Hales, and William Poutrel held of the same Hugh the vill of Waterfal, except one messuage and one bovate of land with appurtenances, by fealty, and service of 16*s.* 6*d.* by the year. And the aforesaid messuage and bovate of land were holden of the aforesaid Hugh in bondage, and are worth by the year 4*s.*

Also the aforesaid Hugh had the vill of Ruyshton Spenser in the same County, in which there are four free tenants, and they hold of him divers free tenements, by fealty, and the service of 6*s.* 6*d.* by the year. Also there are there six villeins, each of whom held of the same Hugh one messuage and one bovate of land in bondage, and each messuage and bovate of land is worth 4*s.* Also there are in the same vill thirteen tenants, each of whom held of the same Hugh for term of life, according to the custom of the Manor, one messuage and sixteen acres of land, and the messuage and sixteen acres of land aforesaid are worth 8*s.* by the year. And there is in the same vill of Ruyshton a certain water-mill, which is worth by the year 15*s.* And all the aforesaid lands and tenements are in the

[1] *I.e.*, the frith of the Barons of Wich-Malbanc, who, down to 1214, held Alstonefield of the Earls of Chester.

Hundred of Tatemoneslowe super le Morland, in the part nearest to the Counties of Derby and Chester, except the aforesaid rent of Denston ; and the same rent is near Roucester in Douvedale.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE HARCOURT.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Harecourt.—*Woodstock*, 2 *May*, 4 *Edw. III.*

Inquisition made at Elynhale, before the King's Escheator, on the 18 May, 4 Edw. III. (1330), by the oath of Jurdan de Pulusdon, John Grym, Adam le Parker, William del Hethe, John Huberd, Thomas de Brumton, Thomas son of John Henesnote, Robert de Cokeslone, John de Cokeslone, Robert son of John, and Richard de Casteforde (Seighford) ; who say upon their oath that John de Harcourt held nothing in his demesne as of fee of the Lord the King *in capite*, on the day of his death, in the County of Stafford. But the same John held in his demesne as of fee on the day of his death the Manor of Elynhale, with appurtenances of the Bishop of Chester, by the service of giving a sore hawk at the gules of August. In which Manor there is a chief messuage, which is worth by the year 2*s.*, with the profit of the garden and curtilage. And two carucates of land 60*s.*, and divers plots of meadow 13*s.* 4*d.* And a certain pasture in severalty 6*d.* And a certain park, to which there is no underwood, but the herbage is worth 3*s.* 4*d.* And a certain water-mill, 13*s.* 4*d.* And of rent of assize of the free tenants by the year 7 marks, viz., at the terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and Michaelmas. And of rent of assize of the customary tenants by the year . . . *s.*, viz., at the terms aforesaid—whereof there ought to be paid to Thomas Cressewalle, for a certain yearly rent for the term of his life, 10 marks. They say also that the pleas and perquisites of Courts there are worth by the year 18*d.* And they say that William de Harcourt, son of the aforesaid John de Harcourt, is the next heir of the same John, and was of the age of 30 years on the 7th March last past.

Sum Total £11 0*s.* 12*d.*

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE SOMERY.

Mandate to John Mautravers, Warden of the King's Forests on this side Trent, or to his Lieutenant in the Forest of Kenefare —Commanding him to certify the King whether John de Somery, on the day of his death, held a certain plot of waste in the aforesaid Forest of Kenefare, and by what service, and how much it is worth by the year in all issues, and whether the same plot be in the King's hands, or in the hands of any other person, and from what cause, and from what time, and in what manner.—*Guildford*, 1 *March*, 4 *Edw. III.* (1330).

Inquisition taken at Kynfare, before Henry de Mortimer, Lieutenant of Master John de Mautravers, Warden of the Forest on this side the Trent, on Monday next after the Feast of the Translation of the Blessed Thomas the Martyr (9 July, 1330): by the oath of Philip de Enes . . . , John de Prees, John, clerk of Kynfare, Richard de la Pull, William le Erl, Hugh de la Lee, John de la Hulle, William Wyloc, Richard le Eyr, John le Norreys, John atte Holies, and Richard le Erl—who say upon their oath that John de Somery, on the day of his death, held of the Lord the King in the Forest of Kynefare, fifty-four acres and a half of waste land, by service of 18*s.* 2*d.* by the year; viz., for each acre 4*d.*, and it is not worth more: which same acres lie in divers places in the same Forest, viz., Sacres, Asshwode, Ashforde, Flederich, Kyngeswallheth, Godrichesleye, and Okholte, according to the particulars thereof, and the same are in the hands of the Lord the King by reason of the death of the aforesaid John de Somery. They say alsoe that there are no issues because the aforesaid acres lie waste, and not inclosed. They say also that Margaret de Suttone and Joan, who was the wife of Master Thomas Buttetourte, are the heirs of the said Master John, and they are of full age; and seek that the said fifty acres and a half of waste land may be given up to them.

In witness, etc.

RICHARD DE MONMOUTH.

Mandate directed to William Trussel, the King's Escheator on this side Trent—Reciting that a Writ of *Diem clausit extremum*, upon the death of Richard de Monemouth, had been

issued to Robert Selman, the King's late Escheator on this side Trent; but before he could execute the same Writ he was removed from his Office. The King therefore commands William Trussel to execute the same Writ in the usual manner. —*Westminster*, 26 *January*, 5 *Edw. III.* (1331).

Inquisition made before the King's Escheator at Wolverhampton, on the 24 February, 5 Edw. III., by the oath of Roger de Trescote, William de Saltford, Adam de Shareshull, Adam atte Churcheyate, Hugh Hewot, Robert de Muryhurst, Thomas de Wynneshurst, John de Tourhull, William le Clerk of Segesleye, John le Deye, John de Bradeleye, and Richard de Everdon—Who say upon their oath that Richard de Monnemowe held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the Manor of Rouley of the King *in capite*, by the service of 16*s.* 4*d.* by the year, to be paid into the King's Exchequer by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford for the time being. And by the service of paying to Isabella, Queen of England, £10 6*s.* 8*d.* for the term of her life, and after the death of the same Isabella nothing beyond the ancient farm, viz., 16*s.* 4*d.* In which same Manor there is a certain chief messuage, and it is worth by the year 12*d.* And a carucate of land 40*s.*, and divers plots of meadow and pasture, and they are worth by the year, between the Feasts of Easter and St. Michael, 40*s.* And a certain mill 30*s.* And a certain wood 6*s.* 8*d.* And of Rent of Assize of the Free tenants by the year £4 10*s.*, viz., at the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary 32*s.*, at the Feast of St. John the Baptist 13*s.*, at St. Michael 32*s.*, and at St. Andrew 13*s.* They say also that the Pleas and Perquisites of Court are worth by the year 16*s.* They say also that they know not who is the next heir of the aforesaid Richard de Monnemowe, nor his age.

Sum of the whole extent £11 3*s.* 8*d.*

In witness, etc.

RALPH BASSET OF WELEDON.

Writ of *Ad quod dannum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the Lord the King, or of others, if the King grants to Ralph Basset of Weldon that he may enfeoff Andrew, Vicar of the Church of Assheby St. Legers, and Thomas, parson of the Church of Weldon with his manors of Weldon and Weston with

appurtenances, which are holden of the King *in capite*, as it is said. To have and to hold to the same Andrew and Thomas and their heirs, of the King and his heirs, by the services therefor due and accustomed, for ever. So that the same Andrew and Thomas (having thereof full and peaceable seizin) may be able to give and grant the manors aforesaid, with appurtenances, to the aforesaid Ralph and the heirs of his body begotten; to be holden of the King and his heirs, by the services aforesaid for ever. And if the same Ralph die without heir of his body begotten, then the Manors aforesaid, with appurtenances, shall remain to the right heirs of the same Ralph, to be holden of the King and his heirs, by the services aforesaid for ever.—*Langele*, 12 *February*, 5 *Edw. III* (1331).

Inquisition taken at Little Weldon, before the Escheator of the Lord the King on this side Trent, on the 25 February, 5 Edw. III.; by the oath of a Northamptonshire jury. Who say that it is not to the damage, etc. They say also that the aforesaid Manors are holden of the King by Knight's service, but the quantity thereof they know not. And they are worth 45 marks. They say also that there remain to the aforesaid Ralph beyond the Manors aforesaid the Manor of Pightisle (Pytchley) with appurtenances in the County of Northampton, which is holden of the Abbot of Peterborough by the service of paying to the said Abbot 10 marks a year, and it is worth by the year in all issues beyond the said rent £10; and the Manor of Maddele in the County of Stafford (M. Alfac), which is holden of the Baron of Stafford by knight's service; and it is worth by the year in all issues £20.

In witness, etc.

(*On the back.*)—Let it be done for a fine of Thirty Pounds.

PRIOR OF RONTON.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants to Peter de Shustoke that he may give and assign to the Prior and Convent of Ronton twelve acres of land, two acres of meadow, and two acres of wood with appurtenances, in Dulverne: To have and to hold to the same Prior and Convent and their

successors for ever, in part satisfaction of the lands and tenements to the value of a hundred shillings, which Edward, late King of England, the King's father, did by his Letters Patent grant that the same Abbot and Convent might acquire, etc.—*Windsor*, 15 *February*, 5 *Edw. III.* (1331).

Inquisition made at Stafford, before the Escheator of the Lord the King, on the 3 May, 5 Edw. III.: by the oath of Henry del Wall, Richard del Whytehurst, William del Delf, Ranulph de Wolvedale, Henry Holm, Thomas Carpenter, Alan Miller, Hugh de Thestuswurth, John de Haddesore, Thomas de Weston, Robert le Kyng and Richard de Brokton. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor the prejudice of the Lord the King, nor of others if the King grants to Peter de Shustoke as above. And they say that the aforesaid land, meadow and wood are holden of the Lord of Cavereswalle by the service of five shillings by the year for all service. And they say that the aforesaid land, meadow and wood are worth by the year beyond the service aforesaid 3*s.* 8*d.*, viz., the price of each acre of land 2*d.*, each acre of meadow 6*d.*, and each acre of wood 4*d.*, and no more, because the land is very stony, and the meadow is very rushy, and the wood is all underwood, and the pasture is all common. And they say that the aforesaid Lord of Caveres-walle is the mesne lord between the Lord the King and the aforesaid Peter of the land, meadow and wood aforesaid. And they say that there remain no lands nor tenements to the aforesaid Peter beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

EDMUND PEVEREL.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Edmund Peverel.—*Westminster*, 25 *March*, 5 *Edw. III.* (1331).

Inquisition made at Stafford, before the King's Escheator, on 24 June, 5 Edw. III.: by the oath of Adam de Stretton, Robert de Congrave, Richard del Hul, John, clerk of Bradeleye, William le Spencer, Richard Kyry, Henry atte Mersh, Reginald in le Huyme, John de Bowode, William atte Touneshende, Roger Mael and Richard le Heustere—who say upon their oath that Edmund Peverel held nothing in his demesne as of fee in the County

aforesaid, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite* : but held of Ralph, Baron of Stafford, two parts of the manor of Stretton, by the service of two parts of a knight's fee. And there is there a messuage with a garden, and it is worth by the year 12*d.* Also 24 acres of land, the price of the acre 3*d.* Also two acres, meadow price 2*s.* Also a certain pasture in defence 12*d.* Also of rent of assize of the Free Tenants 13*s.* 4*d.* And they say that he held nothing of any other persons. They say also that John Peverel, son of the aforesaid Edmund, is the next heir of the same Edmund, and he was of the age of one year in the Feast of Pentecost last past.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE PERTON.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Perton.—*Lincoln*, 9 *July*, 5 *Edw. III.* (1331).

Inquisition made at Wolverhampton, before the King's Escheator, on the 22 July, 5 Edw. III., by the oath of Philip de Lutteleye, Thomas de Overton, Robert de la Zouche, John de Brodeleye, William de Finchingfeld, Geoffrey Levesone, Roger de Trescote, Richard Levesone, William de Saltford, Edmund de l'enne, Roger Buffry and William Bateman, who say upon their oath that John de Perton held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the Manor of Perton with appurtenances in the County aforesaid of the King *in capite*, by Grand Serjeanty; viz., by the service of one man armed with a breastplate, a haubergeon, an iron casque, and a lance and two horses uncaparisoned, for 40 days, in the army of the Lord the King of Wales, when the Lord the King shall be at war there, viz., for eight days at the expense of the same John, and for thirty-two days at the expense of the King, to receive by the day meat and drink and eight pence. In which same Manor there is a certain messuage which is worth by the year, with the profit of the curtilage, 2*s.* And two carucates of land 60*s.*, the price of the carucate 30*s.* and no more, because the third part, in every year, lies fallow and in common. And three acres of meadow 4*s.*, the price of the acre 16*d.* and no more, because the meadow is rushy. And four acres of wood, in which there is no underwood, and the pasture is worth

2*s*. And a certain water-mill 13*s*. 4*d*. and no more, because it is ruinous. And of rent of assize of the Free Tenants 13*s*. 4*d*. And of rent of bondsmen £4 6*s*. 8*d*. And the pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 3*s*. 4*d*. And they say that the aforesaid John held no other lands in his demesne as of fee in the County aforesaid, nor elsewhere, on the day of his death. They say also that William de Perton, son of John de Perton, is the next heir of the same John, and he was of the age of thirty-four years at the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord last past.

In witness, etc.

THEOBALD DE VERDON.

Mandate directed to Thomas de Blaston, Richard de Hampton and Walter de Hadele. Reciting that, at the suit of Henry de Ferariis and Isabella his wife (one of the daughters and heirs of Theobald de Verdon deceased): the King had commanded the Sheriffs of Hereford, Salop, Stafford and Oxford to summon the aforesaid Thomas, Joan, Bartholomew, Elizabeth, William and Margery into the King's Chancery in three weeks from Easter day next ensuing, which day the King had given to the aforesaid Henry and Isabella, to allege anything they know or might have to say wherefore the King should not take back into his hands the lands and tenements which were of the aforesaid Theobald, and which were held as the portions of the same Joan, Elizabeth and Margery, and cause the same, together with the other lands and tenements which belonged to the same Theobald, and which still remain in the King's hands by reason of the minority of the same Isabella, to be again extended and portioned out anew; and because the aforesaid Thomas, Joan, Bartholomew, Elizabeth, William and Margery on the day aforesaid, by their attornies, could urge no reason why the lands and tenements assigned to them as their portions should not be taken back into the King's hands, and the same, together with the other lands and tenements aforesaid remaining in the King's hands, be extended anew, and amongst heirs and coparceners aforesaid be divided again; it was considered that the partition aforesaid, so erroneously made, should be annulled, and that all the lands and

tenements which were of the aforesaid Theobald, on the day of his death, except the lands and tenements assigned in dower to Elizabeth, the widow of the same Theobald, should be extended anew, and should be divided amongst the heirs and coparceners aforesaid.—*Lichfield*, 8 *July*, 5 *Edw. III.* (1331).

Indorsed.—By virtue of this Commission all the lands and tenements of Theobald de Verdun in the County of Stafford have been extended, as appears by the Extent thereof sewed to this writ.

Alveton.—Extent of the lands and tenements which were of Theobald de Verdun on the day of his death, in the County of Stafford, made at Stone on the 15 September, 5 Edw. III., before Thomas de Blaston and Walter de Hadeley, by the oath of Robert de Oneley, Richard de Smalris, Ranulph de Bromley, Ralph Borgilon, Richard Wolrich, Peter de Thikkenes, William de Pokton, William de Poddemore, William de Bromley, William de Assch, John de la Grene, and Nicholas de Knotton, who say upon their oath that the aforesaid Theobald held on the day of his death the Castle and Manor of Alveton, which same Castle is worth by the year 20*s.*, and there is in the said Castle a certain close in the Foreign bailiwick, and it is worth by the year 40*d.*, and a dovecote and it is worth by the year 2*s.*

Wodehouse.—And there are at Wodehouse, a member of Alveton, five carucates of land £10. And ten acres of meadow 20*s.* And a certain park which contains in itself 400 acres of land, the herbage whereof is worth 100*s.*, and the pannage of the same park, when it happens, is worth by the year 40*s.* And in the said park 20 acres of meadow 40*s.* And two water-mills £10, besides 40*s.* which are due in every year to the Abbot of Crokesdene of ancient alms. And a certain fishery 2*s.* And of Rent of assize, as well of the free as of the other tenants, £10. And the Pleas and Perquisites of the Courts are worth by the year 10 marks. And the "chevage" there is worth by the year 5*s.* And there is of free rent of assize at Cavereswalle 10*s.* Rent of assize at Ipstanes 10*s.* Rent of assize at Newbold 10*s.* Rent of assize at Rounhale 7*s.* Rent of assize at Onecote 8*s.* 2*d.* Rent of assize at Consale 17*d.* Rent of assize at Rudeheye 4*s.* Rent of assize at Pekston 12*s.* 6*d.* Rent of assize at Kyggesley 12*d.*, rent of assize at Caldon Grange 13*s.* 4*d.* Rent of assize at

Lokwode 4*s.* And there is at Alveton of rent ¾ lb. pepper and ½ lb. cumin 10*d.* Sum, £5 1 7*s.* 11*d.*

Wotton.—And at Wotton, a member of Alveton, one messuage 40*d.* And one acre of land 40*d.* And four acres of meadow 8*s.* And a certain park, the underwood whereof is worth 40*d.* And the pasture there is worth 40*s.* And the pannage of the park, one year with another, 10*s.* And a certain mill 20*s.* And the agistment of the common pasture 6*s.* 8*d.* And of rent of assize as well of the free tenants as of the other tenants, by the year £10. And the Pleas and Perquisites of the Court there are worth by the year 40*s.* Sum, £18 11*s.* 4*d.*

Stanton.—And at Stanton, a member of Alveton, one messuage with a curtilage worth 6*s.* 8*d.* And a certain carucate of land 20*s.* And 6 acres of meadow 6*s.* And a certain several pasture 26*s.* 8*d.* And a certain turbary, with brushwood, 3*s.* 4*d.* And a certain agistment of common pasture worth 25*s.*, with the pasture of Whyteley. Sum, £4 7*s.* 8*d.*

Farley.—And at Farley, a member of Alveton, of rent of assize, as well of the free tenants as of the other tenants, by the year 118*s.* And divers pastures at Wrebesdon and Okwallmor, worth 23*s.* 4*d.*

Rommesovere.—A member of the said manor, there is a certain moor worth 3*s.* 4*d.* And of rent of assize with the rent of . . .—. . . . wich 20*s.*

Bredeley.—A member of the said manor; there is of rent of assize, with the works of the customary tenants, £10.

Sponne.—A member of the said manor; there is of rent of assize of the free tenants by the year 40*s.*

Overcoten and Nethercoten.—Which are members of the said manor; there is there a certain water-mill, and it is worth by the year 20*s.* And of rent of assize as well of the free tenants as of the other tenants by the year 50*s.* Sum, 70*s.*

Denston.—A member of the said manor; there is a certain meadow 20*s.* And of rent of assize as well of the free tenants as of the other tenants 106*s.* 8*d.* And of rent of assize, which is called Maltercorn, one quarter and three strikes, and they are worth 5*s.* 6*d.* And of a certain custom which is called *Stoh*; and it is worth by the year 13½*d.* Sum, £11 13*s.* 3½*d.*

Strongeshull.—A member of the said manor there is there of

rent of assize as well of free tenants as of other tenants 33*s.* 4*d.* And four quarters of wheat, worth by the year 18*s.* And of a certain custom, which is called *Stoth*, 10*s.* Sum, 61*s.* 4*d.*

Shene.—A member of the said manor. And there is there of rent of assize by the year 39*s.*

Wiston and Leyesheuese.—Members of the said manor ; there is there of rent of assize by the year 43*s.* 7*d.*

Balterdeleye.—A member of the said manor ; rent of assize £10 10*s.* 10*d.*

Bokkenhale.—A member of the said manor ; rent of assize as well of the free tenants as of the other tenants £10 11*s.* 4*d.*

Bidulf.—A member of the said manor ; rent of assize 21*s.* 8*d.*, with a certain custom which is called *Stoth.*

Fenton.—A member of the said manor ; rent of assize of the free tenants by the year £8 3*s.* 1*d.*

Also there is one knight's fee at Crakemerss and Crehton, which Walter de Verdun[1] and Thomas de [? Barington] hold.

Also there is there a certain abbey which is called Crokesdene, which is of the advowson of the Lord of Alveton.

Sum Total, £142 5*s.* 8½*d.*

In witness, etc.

Extent of the lands and tenements, which were of Theobald de Verdun, deceased, now lately made at the suit of Henry de Ferrers, who, etc.

[*Inter alia.*]

The Castle and Manor of Alveton with its members of Wodehous, Wotton, Stanton, Shene, Wyston, Leyheuese, Balterdeleye, Bokkenhale, Bidulf, and Fenton in the County of Stafford, which amount to £142 5*s.* 8½*d.*

Partition of the Inheritance, which was of Theobald de Verdun, deceased, etc., between the heirs of the same Theobald.

The property of Thomas de Furnivall and Joan his wife.

Stafford.—The Castle of Alveton, with its members in Wotton, Stanton, Farleye, Rammesevere, . . . Bradeleye, Sponne, Strongeshull, Shene, Wytston, and Bedulf with appurtenances in the same County. In value £58 15*s.* 7*d.*

[1] Verdon held Crakemarsh for life by the demise of Sir John de Stafford of Bramshall. Sir Philip de Barington, lord of Creighton, *j.u.*, died 7 September, 1326. Thomas may have been his son and heir.

The Manor of Balterdeleye, with appurtenances, in the County of Stafford—certain lands in Bokenhale in the same County; and certain tenements in Fenton in the same County; retained in the King's hands for the property of one of the daughters and heirs of the aforesaid Theobald, still under age and remaining in the wardship of the King. In value £63.

Memorandum that this partition was made by the aforesaid Thomas, Bartholomew, and William in the presence of the Venerable Father H. Bishop of Lincoln, the King's Chancellor, with the consent of Isabella, Queen of England, the King's mother, who has the wardship of the property of the aforesaid heir, so under age, and remaining in the King's wardship, by estimation of the true value of the castles, manors, lands and tenements aforesaid and not according to the extents returned into Chancery.

ABBOT OF ST. EBRULF.

Mandate to William Trussel, the King's Escheator, on this side Trent: reciting that the King—heretofore wishing to be certified why the wood at Great Onne, belonging to the Abbot of St. Ebrulf, had been taken into the King's hands by Simon de Bereford, Escheator on this side Trent; he had commanded the same Simon to certify him of the cause thereof under his seal: and that the same Simon had returned that he had taken the wood in Great Onne, which is called Westwode, belonging to the said Abbot, into the King's hands, because he found by inquisition taken before him by virtue of his Office that the same Abbot had acquired to himself and his house the said wood from Richard Sweyne of Cougleye without the licence of the King after the publication of the Statute of Mortmain. On behalf of the Abbot it is now shown to the King that a certain Robert,[1] Earl of Bethleem, a long time before the Statute aforesaid, by his charter, gave to the then Abbot and monks of St. Ebrulf the aforesaid record with appurtenances; to hold to them and their successors in pure and perpetual alms for ever: by virtue of which gift the said Abbot and monks and their

[1] Robert of Belesme, Earl of Shrewsbury, *d. c.* 1112.

successors have always heretofore, from the time of the gift aforesaid, held the wood aforesaid peaceably and quietly. The King is prayed to grant redress in this matter. The King wishing to be certified of the truth of the premisses commands William Trussel to inquire by the oath of good and lawful men, etc. *Lincoln*, 4 *July*, 5 *Edw. III.* (1331).

Inquisition made at Penkrych before the Escheator of the Lord the King, in the presence of Henry atte Rook, Attorney of the Abbot of St. Ebrulf, on the 10th September, 5 Edw. III., by the oath of Adam de Moorton, John de Moorton, Henry le Preetesmon, William de Bromshulf, Adam de Coton, Richard de Borugh, Richard del Hul of Chatewalle, John de Holneye, Richard in le Syche of Eyton, John de Brampton, Henry de . . . olaston of Coveleye, and Adam le Fresshe—who say upon their oath that Roger de Bethleem heretofore Earl of Chester (?) a hundred years before the Statute of Mortmain was published, did by his Charter give to the Abbot and monks of St. Ebrulf the wood of Westwod with appurtenances: to hold to them and their successors in pure, free and perpetual alms for ever. By virtue of which gift the same Abbot and monks and their successors, from the time of the gift aforesaid until now, have held the wood aforesaid with appurtenances peaceably and quietly. And they say that the aforesaid Abbot and monks held the aforesaid wood in pure and perpetual alms as aforesaid freely, without rendering or doing any service therefor to the Lord the King or any other person.

And they say that the wood aforesaid is worth by the year in all issues according to the true value in all things of the same 40*s.*

In witness, etc.

CHAPEL OF ST. MARY, LICHFIELD.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King, or of others, if the King grants to John de la Bourne, Chaplain, that he may give and assign to a certain Chaplain celebrating divine service daily in the Chapel of the Blessed Mary at Lychefeld, three messuages and twelve acres of land with appurtenances in Lychefeld. To have and to hold to

the same Chaplain and his successors, Chaplains there daily celebrating divine service as aforesaid, for ever.—*Westminster*, 8 *October*, 5 *Edw. III.* (1331).

Inquisition made at Lychefeld, before the King's Escheator, on Tuesday next after the Feast of St. Edmund the Archbishop (19 November, 1331), by William de Eyton, John de Rothewell, Robert de Elmhurste, John de Bradilegh, Reginald de Wodyngges, Henry on the More, Henry Ball, John de Sotton, John le Cunyon, Thomas Basset, Robert de Valeys, and William de Brougthon, who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the Lord the King nor of others, if John de la Bourne, Chaplain, gives, etc. They say also that the three messuages and twelve acres of land aforesaid are holden of Roger, Bishop of Coventry and Lychefeld, by the service of 2*s.* 8*d.* by the year, and two appearances at the Court of the same Bishop at Lychefeld. And the three messuages and twelve acres of land aforesaid are worth 10 shillings, and there is no mesne lord between the Lord the King and the aforesaid John except the Bishop aforesaid. They say also that four messuages and twenty acres of land with appurtenances in Lychefeld remain to the aforesaid John, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, by the service of 2*s.* by the year; and they are worth by the year one mark, and they are sufficient for the performance of the customs and services due, as well for the aforesaid three messuages and land so given, as for other lands and tenements retained in his own possession, and for sustaining all other charges which he is bounden and is accustomed to sustain in all things, besides being placed in assizes and other recognizances, and other necessary charges.

In witness, etc.

ABBOT OF CROXDEN.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to the Abbot and Convent of Crokesdene that they may retain and hold to themselves and their successors for ever ninety acres of land with appurtenances in Bradenhope, which the same Abbot and Convent of Crokesdene acquired to themselves and

their successors for ever, in fee, from the Abbot and Convent of Hulton, after the publication of the Statute of Mortmain ; without obtaining the licence of Lord Edward, late King of England, the King's father, or the licence of the King.—*Westminster*, 15 *October*, 5 *Edw. III.* (1331).

Inquisition made at Alveton, before the King's Escheator, on the 11th November, 5 Edw. III., by the oath of Symon le Porter, Richard de Farleye, Richard de la Schawe, William de Chedle, Richard del Wythurst, Richard de Berdemor, Ranulph de Olderich, Thomas de Wotton, Richard le Frensche, Richard le Heyr, Robert de Glendenhurst, and John de Farleye—who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the King nor of others, if the King grants, etc. And they say that the aforesaid land is holden of the aforesaid Abbot and Convent of Hulton by the service of nine shillings by the year, for all service. And they say that the aforesaid land is worth by the year in all issues, according to the true value of the same, 13*s.* 6*d.*, beyond the service aforesaid, and no more, because the said land is worth nothing for tilling nor for sowing.

In witness, etc.

EDMUND DE MORTIMER.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Edmund de Mortimer.—*Westminster*, 21 *January*, 5 *Edw. III.* (1332).

Inquisition made before the Escheator of the Lord the King on the 20th February, 6 Edw. III., by the oath of John de Hetheye, William de Stepple, John de Henrys, William atte Lowe, John Bernard, William de Wynnewod, John de Wodehous, William de Malleye, John atte Forde, William le Hounere, Adam le Clerk, and John le Rede, who say upon their oath that Edmund de Mortimer held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the Manor of Clehury Mortimer in the County aforesaid of the Lord the King *in capite.*

[Here follow divers Manors in the County of Salop.]

Boure.—They say also that the aforesaid Edmund held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, certain lands and certain tenements at La Boure, near the manor of Arleye in the

County of Stafford, of the Lord the King *in capite*, as members of the said manor of Cleobury ; which same manor is holden of the King *in capite* by Knight's service. There are no buildings there, but there is one carucate of land which is worth nothing by the year for sowing. But the pasture of the same is worth by the year 13*s.* 4*d.* And two acres of meadow 2*s.* And a certain weir, which is worth 3*s.* 4*d.* And a passage over the Severn, which is worth 6*d.* And a certain wood which is worth nothing, because there is no underwood, and the pasture is in common. And of Rent of Assize of the Free tenants by the year 20*s.*, at the terms of St. John the Baptist and St. Martin. There are no Pleas or Perquisites of the Courts. They say also that Roger, son of the aforesaid Edmund, is the next heir of the same Edmund, and he was of the age of four years at the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary last past. Sum, 39*s.* 2*d.*

In witness, etc.

On the back.—These Inquisitions were taken in the first instance, and for certain causes challenged before the Council ; for which reason the Inquisitions to these sewed were afterwards taken : upon which Elizabeth, who was the wife of the aforesaid Edmund, was dowered.

Inquisition made before the King's Escheator at Cleobury, on the 6th July, 6 Edw. III. : the jury say upon their oath that Edmund de Mortimer held in his demesne as of fee :

[Here follow divers premises in the County of Salop.]

Boure.—Also certain lands and tenements at La Boure and La Crofte, near Ernewode, in the County of Stafford, as parcel of the manor of Arleye, which is holden of the Lord the King *in capite*, by the service of one Knight's fee. There are there sixty acres of land, and they are worth by the year 10*s.* And a certain meadow 3*s.* 4*d.* And a certain passage 6*d.* And a certain weir 6*s.* 8*d.* And of Rent of Assize 20*s.*, at the said two terms. And a certain wood whereof there is no underwood and no pasture, because it is in common.

Sum, 40*s.* 6*d.*

They say also that Edmund (*sic*) de Mortimer is the son and next heir of the aforesaid Edmund, and he was of the age of three years at the Feast of St. Martin (November 11) last past.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE BROMLEY.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Bromleye.—*Westminster*, 20 *March*, 6 *Edw. III.* (1332).

Assheleye.—Inquisition made at Assheleye, before the King's Escheator, on the 1st April, 6 Edw. III., by the oath of Richard de Borton, Robert l'Eyr, Robert Gerveys, Stephen de Rugge, Thomas Gerveys, Adam Chapeleyn, Robert le Bedel, Richard le Clerk, John de Stone, John Smith, John son of Roger de Wonynton, and William Lutefeyr, who say upon their oath that John de Bromleye held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, certain lands and tenements at Asscheleye (Ashley) and Wylfotebrugge (Willowbridge) of the King *in capite* by the service of the third part of a knight's fee; that at Asscheleye there are no buildings nor demesnes. But there is there of rent of assize of free tenants by the year forty shillings, viz., at the Terms of the Nativity of Our Lord and St. John the Baptist by equal portions. And at Wylfotebrugge one messuage, which is worth nothing by the year because it is ruinous; and there is there no garden nor curtilage. And one carucate of land, the pasture of which is worth 20*s.* and no more, because it is worth nothing for sowing. And a certain wood in which there is no underwood, and the pasture is in common. And one acre of meadow 18*d.* And no pasture in severalty; and there are there neither pleas nor profits.

Bromleye.—They say also that the aforesaid John de Bromleye held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the hamlet of Bromley of the Bishop of Chester (Coventry), by the service of ten shillings by the year, to be paid at his castle of Eccleshale at the Terms aforesaid, by equal portions. In which same hamlet there is a certain chief messuage, which is worth nothing by the year beyond the keeping up of the houses. But there is there a certain curtilage, with the profit of the garden, 12*d.* And a carucate of land worth, when it is sowed, 26*s.* 8*d.* and no more, because the land is stony. And a certain water-mill 13*s.* 4*d.* And of Rent of Assize of the Free tenants, by the year 40*s.* at the Terms aforesaid, by equal portions. There are no Pleas and Perquisites there. They say also that John de Bromleye, son of the aforesaid John de

Bromleye . . . next heir of the same John, and he was of the age of twenty-seven years at the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula last past (August 1).

In witness, etc.

ISEULT DE AUDLEY.

Mandate directed to William Trussel, the King's Escheator beyond Trent: reciting that whereas the King, at the request of Ralph de Nevill, Steward of his Household, had committed to Isolda D'audele[1] the wardship of the weirs in the water of the Severn, and of the passage of the same water, and of the woods within the Chace of Were, and also of one messuage and one carucate of land with appurtenances, which same messuage and land did belong to Adam de la Boure, pertaining to the Manor of Arleye in the County of Stafford; and which weirs, passages, woods, messuage, and land are now in the hands of the King by reason of the minority of . . . son and heir of Edmund de Mortimer, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, to hold (to the same Isolda), with all things to the same wardships belonging, until the lawful age of the heir aforesaid.

The King wishes to be certified of the true value by the year, in all issues according to the true value thereof, of the same weirs, passages, woods, messuage, and lands, and commands William Trussel to cause inquiry, etc.—*Nottingham*, 28 *April*, 6 *Edw. III.* (1332).

Inquisition made at Evenefeld (Envill), before the King's Escheator, on the 12th May, 6 Edw. III., by the oath of Ralph de Evenefeld, William atte Horewode, Thomas Conan, Philip de Evenefeld, Richard del Hull, John atte Hospital, William Herel, Richard Herel, William Lyon, Henry Gevons, Edmund de Morf, and Thomas Haukyns. Who say upon their oath that there are at La Boure certain lands and tenements which were lately parcels of the Manor of Arleye, in the County of Stafford; and there are there no buildings, but one carucate of land, with two plots of meadow adjacent, of about two acres, worth 13*s.* 4*d.*, and no more, because the said land is worth nothing for sowing

[1] Widow of Hugh d'Audley the elder, *d.* 1326.

because it is stony. And two weirs, which are worth 3*s.* 4*d.*, and no more, because they require repairs every year to the amount of 10*s.* And a certain passage, which is worth by the year 6*d.* And a certain wood within the Chace of Wyre, which is worth nothing, because there is no underwood, and the pasture is in common. And of Rent of Assize of the Free tenants by the year, 20*s.*, at the four quarterly Terms, by equal portions. They say also that the Pleas and Perquisites of the Courts there are worth nothing by the year, because no Courts are holden there.

In witness whereof, etc.

Sum total, 37*s.* 2*d.*

WILLIAM DE CAVERSWALL.

Mandate to Roger de Chaundos, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, etc.; reciting that William de Kaverswall has besought the King to grant that he and his heirs for ever may have view of Frankpledge, with all things to the same view belonging, from all their men and tenants within their Manors of Knaveswell and Dulverne, in the County of Stafford, and also the chattels, which are called *Waif*, found within the same Manors. The King wishing to be certified if he can, without damage or prejudice to himself or to others, or diminution of his farm of the County of Stafford, grants to the same William the liberties aforesaid; to have to the same William and his heirs as is aforesaid for ever, etc., etc.—*Wodestok*, 20 *July*, 6 *Edw. III.* (1332).

Inquisition made at Stone, before Roger de Chaundos, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc., in the presence of the Sheriff of Stafford, on the 12th September, 6 Edw. III., viz., by the oath of Ralph Basset, William de Chetewynd, Ralph Burgyloun, Richard son of William, Henry de Wynleye, William de Lee, Richard de Wythhurste, Philip de Lee, Nicholas de Bagenholte, Hugh de Pessale, Hugh, son of Robert de Somerleye, and Alexander de Fowelle, who say upon their oath that the King can, without damage, grant, etc.

And they say that the Manor of Kareswelle is holden of Thomas de Fornival, Lord of Alveton, as of inheritance of his

wife, by the service of 10*s.* by the year for everything. And they say that the Manor of Dulverne is holden of William de Stafford,[1] by the service of one Knight's fee. And they say that the view aforesaid by itself may be worth by the year in all issues, according to the true value of the same, 3 shillings. And they say that the chattels aforesaid by themselves as a certainty may be worth nothing; but by chance they may be worth by the year 12 pence.

In witness, etc.

HANDSWORTH—Felony.

Mandate to the Sheriff of Stafford: directing him to inquire by a jury of the County of Stafford, whether one messuage and the moiety of two virgates of land with appurtenances, in Honesworth, which William atte Putte of Honesworth held, who was outlawed for the felony which he committed, have been in the King's hands for a year and a day, or not; and of what person, etc.—*Twedemouth*, 12 *June*, 7 *Edw. III* (1333).

Inquisition taken at Honesworth, before Richard de Peshale, Sheriff of Stafford, on Monday next after the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, in the 7 Edw. III., by the oath of Robert de Wirleye, William le Keu (Koc) of Honesworth, Roger Basset, Geoffrey de Barre, Henry atte Halle, John le Squyer, Richard Walter, Roger atte Halle, John on the Heth, Henry on the Heth, John de Salleye, and Guy Ayllewyn. Who say upon their oath that one messuage and the moiety of two virgates of land with appurtenances in Honesworth, which William atte Putte of Honesworth (who was outlawed for the felony which he committed) held in Honesworth, will not have been in the hands of the King for one year and a day until Saturday next after the Feast of St. Valentine (February 14) next ensuing. And that the aforesaid tenements are holden of

[1] Sir Wm. de Stafford, lord of Sandon, Bramshall, etc., was descended from the 2nd son of Hervey Bagot and Milicent, lady of Stafford. Yet he takes here the place of Hervey Bagot of Bramshall, mesne lord of Dilhorn in the *Liber. Niger*, 1166, although the descendants of the eldest son were the Barons Stafford.

Joan, who was the wife of Thomas Botetourte, Lady of Honesworth, and that the vill of Honesworth now holds the aforesaid tenements, by the demise of the aforesaid Sheriff. And that the aforesaid vill of Honesworth has the year, day, and waste of the said tenements, and ought to answer to the King thereof.

In witness, etc.

Mandate to the Sheriff of Stafford, reciting that the King wishes to be certified of the true value of one messuage and the moiety of two virgates of land with appurtenances in Honesworth, which William atte Putte of Honesworth (who was outlawed for the felony which he committed, as it is said) held of Joan, who was the wife of Thomas Botetourte, and which messuage and land on account of the felony aforesaid are in the King's hands for the year, waste and day belonging to the King. The Sheriff is thereupon commanded to have the same premises extended, and to certify the King of the yearly value thereof, and of the value of the year, day, and waste, etc.—*Twedemuth*, 26 *June*, 7 *Edw. III.* (1333).

Extent of one messuage and the moiety of two virgates of land with appurtenances in Honesworth, which William atte Putte of Honesworth held, who was outlawed for the felony which he committed, also upon the value of the year, day and waste aforesaid; made at Honesworth, before Richard de Peshale, Sheriff of Stafford, on Thursday next after the Feast of the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr, in the 7 Edw. III., by William de Derlaston, Roger Basset, Robert de Wirley, John Dymmok, Roger de Rugeacre, John de Salley, John le Squyer, William le Cok of Honesworth, Henry Burgulon, John atte Heth of Honesworth, William Bragon of Honesworth, and Roger de Pek. Who say upon their oath that the aforesaid messuage, with the curtilage, is worth by the year 2*s.*, and that the moiety of the two virgates of land is worth by the year 6*s.* 8*d.*, and that there is there one acre of meadow which is worth by the year 2*s.*, and that the waste is worth 7*d.*

In witness, etc.

ABBOT OF DEULACRES.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to William de Leversete that he may give and assign five messuages, five tofts, twenty acres of land, two acres of meadow, and the moiety of one messuage, with appurtenances, in Leek ; to Richard de Blacwode of Leek, that he may give and assign three messuages and fourteen acres of land, with appurtenances, in the same vill : and to William Whitswyre, Chaplain, that he may give and assign two messuages and two acres of land with appurtenances in the same vill, to the Abbot and Convent of Deulacresse. To have and to hold to the same Abbot and Convent and their successors for ever, in part satisfaction of the 10 librates of land and yearly rent which the King by his Letters Patent did grant that the same Abbot and Convent might acquire, as well in their own proper fee as in that of a stranger ; lands, tenements, and rents which are holden of the King *in capite* excepted.—*Rameseye*, 25 *April*, 8 *Edw. III.* (1334).

Inquisition taken at Lek, before John de Peyton, junior, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc., on the 28 May, 8 Edw. III., by the oath of William Maylot, William de Kasterne (Castern), William de Bagenald, Henry de Rodyerd, Thomas de Revegge (Reavidge), William de la Lee Richard de Wittehurst, Robert de Bradeheved, Hugh del Wode, Richard le Frensh, John le Persons of Chetel, and John de Fernyhalgh. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the Lord the King nor of others if the King grants, etc. And they say that the aforesaid messuages, tofts, land, and meadow are holden of the aforesaid William de Leversete, by the service of 10*s.* 1*d.*, the tenements of Richard de Blacwode, of the same, by the service of 13*s.* 10*d.*, and the tenements of William Whitswir, Chaplain, of the same, by the service of 12*d.* And the aforesaid William, Richard, and William hold the aforesaid messuages, tofts, land, and meadow of the aforesaid Abbot and Convent by purchase to them and their heirs forever. And they say that the aforesaid messuages, tofts, land, and meadow are worth by the year in all issues according to the true value of the same 24 shillings beyond the

rent and services due to the Chief Lord. And they say that the aforesaid Abbot and Convent of Deulacresse and the Earl of Chester, Founder of the house aforesaid, are the mesne Lords between the Lord the King and the aforesaid William, Richard, and William of the messuages, tofts, lands, and meadow aforesaid. They say also that there remains ten librates of land and rent to the aforesaid William de Leversete, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, within the Manor of Ideshale in the County of Salop. And they are holden of Giles de Baddelsmere by what service the Jurors know not. And they say that there remains one carucate of land, to the aforesaid Richard, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid; and it is holden of the Abbot and Convent of Hulton by the service of 40*d.* and it is worth 30 shillings. And they say that there remains 20*s.* of rent and land by the year to the aforesaid William Whitswer, Chaplain; and they are holden of the aforesaid Abbot and Convent of Deulacresse by the service of two shillings by the year. And they say that the lands and tenements remaining to the same William, Richard, and William, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, are sufficient for the performance of the customs, etc.

WILLIAM LE BOTILER OF WEMME.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of William le Botiller de Wemme.—*Westminster*, 14 *September*, 8 *Edw. III.* (1334).

Inquisition made at Tirleye, by John de Peyto, Junior, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc., on the 22nd March, 8 Edw. III., by the oath of William de Okleye, William son of Reginald, Adam de Okleye, Thomas Gerveys, Stephen de Podmore, Richard de Derynton, John de Wonynton (Wenniton), Richard de Bromhale, Robert le Budel, Thomas de Knyghton, Thomas de Leyes, and Hugh del Heeth. Who say upon their oath that William le Botyller of Wemme held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the manor of Tyrleye with its members in the County of Stafford, of the King *in capite*, as parcel of two parts of three Knights' fees. In which same

Manor there is a chief messuage, worth 5*s.* in all things, together with the profit of the curtilage and garden there. And a certain vivary worth 2*s.* and no more, because it is not well stocked. And two water-mills £4. And two carucates of arable land 60*s.*, the price of the carucate 30*s.*, and no more, because the land is poor and sandy. And certain meadows 40*s.* And a certain park worth 8*s.* 8*d.* in all things. And two foreign woods, the profit whereof is worth 13*s.* 4*d.* And of Rent of Assize of the free men and natives by the year £26 4*s.* 9*d.* at the Terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael by equal portions. And a certain profit which is called "*Kylgh*," and it is worth by the year 8*s.* 6*d.*, and it ought to be paid at the Terms of the Nativity of Our Lord and the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. The Pleas and Perquisites of Courts there are worth by the year 26*s.* 8*d.* And they say that the aforesaid William le Botiler did not hold any lands or tenements of anyone *in capite* in the aforesaid County of Stafford, except of the Lord the King. And they say that he held the manor aforesaid of the King *in capite* by the service of the third part of three Knights' fees for all service. And they say that William le Botyler, son of the aforesaid William, is the next heir of the aforesaid William le Botiler de Wemme, and was of the age of 36 years and upwards at the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary last past.—(*September* 8).

In witness, etc.

PRIOR OF STONE.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if he grants to Hugh Rose, Chaplain, and John de Stone, Clerk, that they may give and assign one messuage, a rent of 3*s.* 4*d.*, and the moiety of one carucate of land with appurtenances, in Fulford: and to William de Derlaston of Stalynton that he may give and assign three acres of land with appurtenances in Mefford, to the Prior and Convent of Stone. To have and to hold to the same Prior and Convent and their successors, in part satisfaction of the lands and tenements and rents to the value of £20, which Edward, late King of England, the King's father, did grant that

the same Prior and Convent might acquire, as well in their own proper fee as in that of a stranger (lands, tenements, and rents which were holden of the King's father *in capite* excepted), etc. —*Westminster*, 18 *September*, 8 *Edw. III.* (1334).

Inquisition made at Trentham, before John de Peyto, Junior, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc., on the 12 October, 8 Edw. III., by the oath of Ralph de Grendon, William Griffyn, William de Huggeford, Richard de Verneye, John de Okovere, John de Hodenet, Robert Bithewater, John de Styvynton, Robert de Onyleye, Philip de Lee, John Uwynet, and Thomas de Stalynton. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor the prejudice of the King nor of others, if the King grants, etc. And they say that the aforesaid messuage, the rent of 3*s.* 4*d.*, and the moiety of one carucate of land with appurtenances in Fulford, are holden of the Prior of Great Malverne by the service of two shillings by the year for all service, and they are worth 21*s.* 4*d.* And the Prior of Great Malverne is the mesne Lord between the Lord the King and the aforesaid Hugh and John. And the said three acres of land, with appurtenances in Mefford, are holden of John Trussel, Knight,[1] by fealty, for all service. And they are worth 18*d.* And they say that John Trussel and John le Botiler, Knights, are the mesne Lords between the Lord the King and the aforesaid William de Derlaston of the aforesaid three acres of land. And they say that there remain to the aforesaid Hugh and John, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, 40 acres of land with appurtenances, at Cublesdon (Kibblestone) in the County of Stafford, and they are holden of John Trussel, Knight, by the service of 8 shillings by the year, and they are worth 20 shillings. And there remains to the aforesaid William de Derlaston, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, one virgate of land with appurtenances, at Mefford in the same County, holden of John Trussel, knight, by the service of two shillings, and suit at his Court of Cublesdon every three weeks, and it is worth by the year in all issues 10*s.* And the lands and tenements remaining to the same Hugh, John, and William, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, are sufficient for the performance of the customs, etc.

[1] Sir John Trussel of Kibblestone.

BRADLEY CHURCH.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Ralph de Stafford, chevaler, that he may give and grant to Humfrey de Hastang one acre of land with appurtenances in Bradeleye, and the advowson of the Church of the same vill which are holden of the King *in capite*, as it is said. To have and to hold to the same Humfrey for the term of his life, of the King and his heirs by the services therefor due and accustomed. Also that after the death of the said Humfrey the land aforesaid, and the same advowson, shall revert to the aforesaid Ralph and his heirs, to be holden by him and his heirs, of the King and his heirs by the services aforesaid for ever.—*York, 22 October*, 8 *Edw. III.* (1334).

Inquisition made before John de Peyto, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc., at Stafford, on 24th November, 8 Edw. III., by the oath of William de Careswall, William de Bromshulf, William de Engelton, Robert de Conyngreve, Roger de Careswall, John de Bradeleye, John de la Halle, Thomas de Levedale, Richard de Boterhale, John de Overton, Adam de Morton, and John de Gaueleye. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the King nor of others, if the King grants, etc. And they say that the aforesaid land and advowson are holden of the King *in capite* as parcels of the Barony of Stafford. And they say that the aforesaid acre of land is worth by the year in all issues *6d.* And the advowson of the Church aforesaid is worth by the year in all its issues, according to the true value of the same, forty marks. And they say that there remain to the aforesaid Ralph, beyond the land and advowson aforesaid, the Manors of Hide and Norton in the County of Stafford, and they are holden of the King *in capite*, as members of the Barony aforesaid. And they are worth by the year in all issues £20.

In witness, etc.

CHURCH OF DRAYTON BASSET.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Ralph Basset of Drayton that he may give and assign to three Chaplains celebrating divine service daily in the Church of

St. John the Baptist of Drayton, for the soul of the same Ralph and the souls of his ancestors and heirs, and of all the faithful deceased, three acres of land with appurtenances in Drayton Basset, and twenty librates of yearly rent issuing out of the Manor of Drayton, belonging to the same Ralph: To have and to hold to the same Chaplains and their successors, chaplains celebrating divine service daily in the church aforesaid, for the souls aforesaid. And also that the same Ralph, at the distraint of the same Chaplains and their successors aforesaid, may be able to bind the Manor aforesaid to the payment of the same rent, as often as it shall be in arrear in part or in the whole, for ever.—*Nottingham*, 30 *March*, 9 *Edw. III.* (1335).

Inquisition made at Walsall, before Adam de Wylely,[1] the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc., on the 11th May, 9 Edw. III., by the oath of John de Benteleye, John Marchis, Junior, Roger de Peek, Thomas Illari, William Huwet, Ralph Petyt, Walter de Walshal, John le Cu of Pelshal, William Jones of Blokeswych, Alexander Suweynes, William son of Nicholas, and Richard Petyt. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King nor of others if the King grants, etc. And they say that the land and rent aforesaid are holden of the King *in capite*, as parcel of the Manor of Drayton aforesaid, which same Manor is holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of one Knight's fee. And the aforesaid land is worth by the year 3*s*. And there are no mesne Lords between the King and the aforesaid Ralph of the land and rent aforesaid. And there remain to the same Ralph, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, a hundred librates of land and rent in the Manors of Drayton Basset, Walshal, and Patyngham, in the County of Stafford, and they are holden of the King *in capite*; viz., the Manor of Drayton Basset by the service of a knight's fee; the moiety of the Manor of Walshal by the service of 40*s*. by the year to be paid at the King's Exchequer; and the Manor of Patyngham by the service of a half of a knight's fee. And they say that the lands and tenements remaining to the same Ralph, beyond the gift and

[1] Wilely, Wileby or Willoughby, escheator 20 February to 6 December, 1335.

assignment aforesaid, are sufficient for the performance of the customs, etc.

In witness, etc.

TILLINGTON—Felony.

Mandate to the Sheriff of Stafford ; directing him to inquire, by the oaths of good and lawful men of the County of Stafford, whether or not one messuage and seventy acres of land with appurtenances in Tilynton near Stafford, which Henry de Creswall held, who was outlawed for the felony which he committed as it is said, have been in the King's hands for a year and a day, and of what person or persons he held the aforesaid messuage and land and who now holds the same, and who has the King's year, day, and waste, and ought to answer to the King therefor.—*Carlisle*, 8 *July*, 9 *Edw. III.* (1335).

Inquisition taken at Stafford, before John de Hynkeleye, Sheriff of Stafford, on Wednesday next after the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula (2 August, 1335): by the oath of Adam de Moorton, Roger de Caverswalle, William de Bromshulf, Robert de Conegreve, William de Engleton, John de Bykeford, Richard le Palmere, Richard de Shradycote, and Richard Kyry, to ascertain whether or not one messuage and seventy acres of land with appurtenances in Tylinton near Stafford, which Henry de Cressewall held, who was outlawed for the felony which he committed, have been in the hands of the King for a year and a day and of what person or persons he held the aforesaid messuage and land, and who now holds the same, and who has had the King's year, day, and waste, and ought to answer to the King therefor. Who say that the aforesaid messuage and seventy acres of land with appurtenances in Tilynton, near Stafford, which Henry de Cressewall held who was outlawed for the felony which he committed have been in the King's hands for a year and a day, and that the same Henry held the same messuage and land of Ralph de Stafford, Chivaler, and that Thomas de Swynnerton now holds the same, and has had the King's year, day, and waste thereof by Charter of the Lord the King, and ought to answer therefor to the King.

In witness, etc.

HUNDRED OF OFFLOW.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire, reciting that whereas the Lord the King did on the 3rd March, 8 Edw. III., for the good service which John de Wirley rendered to the King's father, grant to him the Bailiwick of the Hundred of Offelowe in the said County to hold during his good behaviour, as by the King's Letters Patent it will more fully appear: and now the aforesaid John hath informed the King that, although he hath from the time aforesaid sufficiently kept the said Bailiwick, and hath not given any reasonable cause why he ought to be amoved from the same, nevertheless a certain Peter de Bruges, by colour of the King's Commission which he asserts that he possesses, has unjustly amoved the same John from the said Bailiwick, and now holds and occupies the same, and he now prays the King to restore the same Bailiwick to him. The King, therefore, being desirous to do what is right, commands the said Sheriff to summon the said Peter to be in the King's Chancery on the morrow of All Souls next ensuing: (and to give notice thereof to the said John) to declare what he has to say for himself why the said Bailiwick should not be taken into the King's hands, and restored to the said John.—10 *August*, 9 *Edw. III.*

Another writ to the Sheriff of Stafford reciting that whereas, in the Statute lately passed at Westminster, among other things, it is contained that no one shall be Sheriff or Bailiff of a Liberty, Wapentake, Hundred, or Tything unless he have lands or tenements in the same County sufficient to answer to the King, or his people, in case any one shall complain against him. And now the King has heard that Peter de Bruges, who has no lands or tenements in the aforesaid County, as it is alleged, is Bailiff of the Hundred of Offelowe in the same County, contrary to the form of the Statute aforesaid. The King desiring to be fully certified whether or not the same Peter has any lands or tenements in the same County, and if so what they are worth, and where they are situated, and whether the same Peter is Bailiff of the Hundred aforesaid, thereupon commands the Sheriff to summon a jury to inquire into the truth of the matter, etc.—16 *August*, 9 *Edw. III.*

An Inquisition made before John de Hynkele, Sheriff of

Staffordshire, at Welleshale, on Tuesday next before the Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist 9 Edw. III. : by the oath of Ralph de Fouleye, Henry de Derlaston, Henry le Bodeles, Henry le Lady, John Marchis, Richard atte Chercheyard, William de Shareshull, William le Taylleur, Henry Wyant, Richard Tyrel, Thomas de Bringhull, and William del Heth; who say upon their oath that the aforesaid Peter de Bruges hath not any lands or tenements in the County of Stafford, and that the same Peter is Bailiff of the Hundred of Offelowe.

In witness, etc.

CRESSWELL—Felony.

Mandate to the Sheriff of Stafford, directing him to inquire by the oath of a Jury of the County of Stafford whether or not the Manor of Crassewell, with appurtenances, which Thomas, son of Henry de Crassewell, held, who was outlawed for the felony which he committed, has been in the King's hands for a year and a day; and of what person or persons he held the same Manor and who now holds the same, and who has had the King's year, day, and waste, and ought to answer to the King therefor.—*Berwick-upon-Tweed*, 8 *January*, 9 *Edw. III.* (1336).

Inquisition taken before John de Hinkeleye, Sheriff of Stafford, at Stafford on Saturday on the morrow of the Purification of the Blessed Mary (3 Feb., 1336): by the oath of John de H . . . , Thomas de Dutton, Hugh de Haveyate (Hobbergate?), Thomas de Hampton, David de Peulesden, Roger de Pichford, Roger de Levedale, William de Caverswall, William de Stretton, Robert de Lynhull, John de Bykeford, and Richard del Bet . . . me. Who say that the manor of Crassewell with appurtenances, which Thomas son of Henry de Crassewell held, who was outlawed for the felony which he committed, has been in the King's hands for a year and a day. And that the same Thomas held the Manor aforesaid of John de Eyton upon Wildemor of the County of Salop, and not of any other person. And that Thomas de Swynnerton now holds the same Manor by grant of the King. And that the same Thomas de Swynnerton has had the King's year, day, and waste and ought to answer to the Lord the King therefor.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE MORFFE—Proof of Age.

Mandate directed to William Trussell, the King's Escheator on this side Trent; stating that John de Morf, son and heir of Henry de Morf, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, declares himself to be of full age, and prays that the lands and tenements which are of the inheritance, and in the wardship of William de Cayntone, committed to him by the King until the full age of the heir aforesaid, may be given up to him. For which reasons the King wishes that the same John, who was born at Morf, in the County of Stafford, and baptized in the Church of Enefeld, shall prove his age before the same Escheator. The sheriff is therefore commanded, etc.—*Westminster*, 13 *March*, 10 *Edw. III.* (1336).

Proof of the age of John, son and heir of Henry de Morf, deceased, taken at Evenefeld before the King's Escheator on the 16th April, 10 Edw. III.: by the oath of,—John le Clerc of Bobyngton, of the age of 46 years, sworn and diligently examined touching the age of the aforesaid John, saith, that the aforesaid John was of the age of 21 years at the Feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle last past, because he was born at Morf in the County of Stafford, and baptized in the church of the same town on the day of St. Barnabas the Apostle (June 11), in 9 Edw. II. (1315). It being demanded of him how he knows this, he says that on Monday next after the Feast aforesaid he made a journey to St. Thomas the Martyr and returning home he fell into a certain sickness, on account of which he made his will, which he still has in his possession, by which date he remembers well the age of the aforesaid John.

Thomas de Overton, of the age of 50 years, sworn and examined, states that he purchased a certain tenement in the aforesaid town of Morf, and by the date of his Charter he well recollects that the aforesaid John is of full age.

John le Clerc of Kynefare, of the age of 64 years, sworn and examined, says that on the day of St. Peter ad Vincula next following he took to wife a certain Alicia, by which he well remembers the age aforesaid.

Roger atte Forde, of the age of 48 years, sworn and examined, says that on the Feast of St. John the Baptist next after the birth

of the aforesaid John he broke his right arm by a certain accident, through which event he well remembers the age of the aforesaid John.

Ranulph de Broke, of the age of 50 years, sworn, says that at the Feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle next after the birth of the aforesaid John he married his daughter Joan to Hugh le Hunte, of Morf, with whom he gave and granted a certain tenement by his Charter in the aforesaid town, by which he recollects the age aforesaid.

William atte Hoo, of the age of 42 years, sworn, says that Roger atte Hoo, father of the aforesaid William atte Hoo, died on the Feast of St. Barnabas, on which day the aforesaid John was born, whose death was entered in a certain missal by which he well recollects it.

John de Hulhous, of the age of 42 years, Richard de Bobynton, of the age of 44 years, Richard de Holbache, of the age of 55 years, sworn, say that they were Executors of the will of the aforesaid Roger atte Hoo, and by the date of the same will they sufficiently well recollect that the aforesaid John is of full age.

John Jones, of the age of 58 years, sworn, says that Isabella his wife on Saturday next after the feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle in 9 Edw. II. was brought to bed of a son named Richard, and therefore he well recollects that the aforesaid John is of full age.

William Henrys, of the age of 46 years, Thomas de Wombourne, of the age of 44 years, sworn, say that on Monday next after the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula next after the aforesaid Feast of St. Barnabas, in 9 Edw. II., they made a journey to St. Thomas of Hereford, and on their way they fell amongst thieves, so that they were robbed of their goods and were wounded almost unto death, by which they well remember the age of the aforesaid John.

I caused William de Caynton, who has the wardship of the lands and tenements, which are of the inheritance of the aforesaid John, son and heir of Henry de Morf, committed to him by the King, to be made acquainted that he might be present at this proof, on the day aforesaid, to show if he had anything to urge, or could give any reason why the Lord the King ought not to give up to the aforesaid John, as to him who is of full age, the

lands and tenements aforesaid:—on which day the aforesaid William was present, but could not urge anything against the proof aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

ABBOT OF BURTON-ON-TRENT.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King if he grants to Roger de Okovere and Christiana his wife that they may give and assign to the Abbot and Convent of Burton-upon-Trent a rent of fourteen shillings with appurtenances in Ilum: To have and to hold to them and their successors for ever, in part satisfaction of the rent of ten marks by the year which the King by his Letters Patent did grant that the same Abbot and Convent might acquire, as well in their own proper fee as in that of a stranger, lands and tenements which are holden of the King *in capite* excepted.—*Westminster*, 15 *March*, 10 *Edw. III.* (1336).

Inquisition made at Tuttebury, before William Trussel, Escheator of the King, on the 8th April, 10 Edw. III.: by the oath of John de Oxenfeld, John Norreys, Ralph de Buxton, Henry de Walton, Roger de Roulleston, Richard de Merston, Stephen de Staunton, William de Bromleye, Nicholas Penifot, Walter la Beele, John de Warde, and Adam le Skippere. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King nor of others if the King grants, etc. And they say that the fourteen shillingsworth of rent are holden of the aforesaid Abbot of Burton by the service of a rose flower by the year. And they say that the aforesaid Abbot, and no other person, is the mesne Lord between the King and the aforesaid Roger and Christiana of the aforesaid fourteen shillingsworth of rent. And they say that there remain to the aforesaid Roger and Christiana, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, ten librates of land and rent with appurtenances in Okovere in the county of Stafford. And they are holden of the aforesaid Abbot by the service of 26*s.* by the year for all service. And the lands and tenements remaining to the aforesaid Roger and Christiana, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, are sufficient for the performance of the customs, etc.

JOHN DE BRIMPTON.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Brumpton.—*St. John*, 8 *September*, 10 *Edw. III.* (1336).

Inquisition taken at Eyton, before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, on the 19th September, 10 Edw. III.: by the oath of Thomas de Eyton, Robert de Coule (Cowley), William de Careswell, John de Coveleye, John Huet, Richard de la Siche, Robert de Oldunton, Richard de Aston, John de Merston, Richard in the Lane, John de Wotton, John de Holneye, who say upon their oath that John de Brumpton died on the 19th August, and held to him and his heirs in fee the Manor of Eyton, with appurtenances, of Ralph, Baron of Stafford, by the service of one small knight's fee. And the said Manor is worth by the year in all issues £10, viz., a certain messuage with a close 10*s.* beyond the reprise of the dwellings. Also there are there 100 acres of arable land 50*s.* And 12 acres of meadow 12*s.* There are there 8 acres of pasture 2*s.* 8*d.* Also a certain windmill 16*s.* Also 60*s.* of rent of the free tenants, viz., at the Feasts of the Nativity of our Lord and St. John the Baptist, by equal portions. Also 44*s.* of rent from the Natives, to be paid at the Feasts aforesaid by equal portions. Also the Pleas and Perquisites of Courts are worth by the year 5*s.* 4*d.* They say also that John de Brumpton, son of the aforesaid John, now deceased, is the next heir, and he is of the age of 26 years and upwards.

In witness, etc.

WILLIAM LE BLOUNT.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of William le Blount.—*Westminster*, 3 *October*, 11 *Edw. III.* (1337).

Inquisition made at Newcastle-under-Lyme, before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, on the 20th November, 11 Edw. III.: by the oath of Richard de Verneye, Ralph de Grendon, Robert de Onyleye, Henry atte Brugge, Richard de Thyknes, Peter de Thyknes, John Burgilon, Richard de Delves, Reginald de Thiknes, Robert de Combrugge, John de Prestwode, and Richard

de Shawe. Who say upon their oath that William le Blount deceased, did not hold any lands or tenements in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite*, but they say that the same William held the vill of Balterdeleye in the County of Stafford, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite*, as of the right and inheritance of Margery, his wife.[1] In which same vill he held no messuage, site, land, meadow, pasture, or mill, but he held of Rent of Assize of the free tenants by the year 10 marks 11 shillings, at the Terms of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary, the Purification, Easter, and Pentecost, by equal portions. And the Pleas and Perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 2*s*. There are no other profits there. And they say that the aforesaid William held in the same Manor of Fenton 40*s*. of rent with appurtenances arising from divers tenants there at the terms aforesaid. And at Romesore (Ramsor) in the same manor, 16*s*. of rent arising from divers tenants there at the terms aforesaid. And at Bidulf in the same Manor, 13*s*. 4*d*. of rent from divers tenants there at the terms aforesaid. And they say that the aforesaid William held the aforesaid vill of Balterdeleye, together with the small portions aforesaid, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite*, as of the right and inheritance of the aforesaid Margery, his wife, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee. And they say that John le Blount, brother of the aforesaid William, is his next heir, and he is of the age of 30 years.

In witness, etc.

ELIZABETH DE LOGES.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Elizabeth, who was the wife of Richard de Loges, lately deceased, who held on the day of her death in dower, as of the inheritance of the said Richard, late her husband, certain lands and tenements which are holden of the King *in capite*, as it is reported.—*Thame*, 2 *November*, 11 *Edw. III.* (1337).

Inquisition made at Cannokbury on the 12th December,

[1] Daughter of Theobald de Verdon.

11 Edw. III.: by the oath of Roger de Cavereswell, William de Engleton, Robert de Lynhull, William de Bromshelf, John de Covene, Robert de Congreve, Richard de Bourgh of Halweton (Haughton), William Child of Knyghtele, John atte Brok, of the Leecroft, John Tromwyn, of Cannockbury, John de Bikeford, and Adam de Lamslon, of Acton. Who say upon their oath that Elizabeth, who was the wife of Richard de Loges, held on the day of her death, of the King *in capite*, in dower of the inheritance of the aforesaid Richard, late her husband, a yearly rent of 60*s.* 10*d.*, arising from the free tenants in Wirlegh at the two terms of the year: viz., at the Feasts of Easter and Michaelmas by equal portions, by the service of giving to the Lord the King one barbed arrow, whenever and so often as the same Lord the King shall pass by the King's Highway, through the said town of Wyrlegh, towards the parts of Wales to hunt there, for all service. And they say that John de Loges is kinsman and next heir of the same Richard, and he is of the age of twenty-four years.

In witness, etc.

THEOBALD DE VERDON.

Mandate directed to William Trussel, the King's Escheator beyond Trent: reciting that the King heretofore wishing to be certified of the value of the knights' fees and advowsons of Churches, which did belong to Theobald de Verdun, deceased, had commanded the same Escheator to cause the same fees and advowsons to be extended by the oaths of good and lawful men; and to send to the King the extent thereof made under the Seals of himself, and of those by whom it had been made. And that although the same Escheator, by virtue of the King's mandate aforesaid, had sent extents of some of the fees and advowsons aforesaid into the King's Chancery, yet various fees and advowsons of the inheritance aforesaid still remain to be extended and to be returned into the King's Chancery, as the King has been informed, and whereat he is much disturbed. The King commands the same Sheriff that he do cause to be extended without delay all the fees and advowsons

of the inheritance aforesaid, in his bailiwick, if any there be which still remain to be extended, and to cause the same extent so made to be sent into the King's Chancery, according to the tenor of the mandate heretofore directed to him.—*Botheville*, 29 *November*, 10 *Edw. III.* (1336).

Inquisition made at Stafford, before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, on Monday next before the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, 10 Edw. III.: by William Duraunt, Hugh de Ely, Robert Ferthing, Richard Make, John Michel, Roger Smert, Hugh Peise, John de Salop, Richard Chester, Roger le Clerk, John Rose, and Hugh de Kent, Jurors. Who say upon their oath that the Church of the Abbey of Crokesden, the advowson whereof did belong to Theobald de Verdun, deceased, who held of Edward, father of the now Lord the King *in capite*, is worth by the year 200 marks.

In witness, etc.

Mandate directed to William Trussel, the King's Escheator; stating, that although by the Extents made by the Sheriff of Stafford at the King's commands, of the knights' fees which did belong to Theobald de Verdun, deceased, who held, etc., it is shown that the aforesaid Theobald on the day aforesaid, held in Northovere, in the County of Stafford, one knight's fee with appurtenances, which is extended at £6 13*s.* 4*d.* by the year: yet because in the extent it is not shown, as it should have been, who is the holder of the fee aforesaid, the same extent is considered insufficient for that reason by the King.

The King therefore commands the Sheriff to inquire the name of the person holding, etc.—*Bothevill*, 29 *November*, 10 *Edw. III.* (1336).

Inquisition taken at Stafford, before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, on Monday next before the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, 10 Edw. III. (22 Jan., 1337): by William Durant, Hugh de Eli, Robert Ferthyng, Hugh Esterne, Richard Lewis, Roger Sparkes, Henry Sevene, Robert Matt, John Litel, Hugh Frost, Roger Mason, and Nicholas Sperlyng, Jurors. Who say upon their oath that Nigel Person holds one knight's fee with appurtenances in Northovere in the County of Stafford, which Theobald de Verdun had, who held of King

Edward, father of the now King, *in capite*, on the day of his death, and which knight's fee is worth by the year £6 13*s.* 4*d.*

In witness, etc.

Extent of the knights' fees and advowsons of Churches which did belong to Theobald de Verdun, deceased, who held *in capite* of the Lord the King; made before Adam de Wyleby, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc.; at Stafford on the 16th October, 9 Edw. III.: by the oath of Richard de Verney, Robert de Onyley, Ralph Burgiloun, Richard de Bromleye, Richard Smalrys, William de Huggeford, William Moykok, Richard de Whithurst, Robert de Cumbrugge, Hugh de Peshale, Richard de Gretwicke, and William Shirard. Who say upon their oath that John de Verdun held the moiety of a knight's fee with appurtenances in Fornwerk (Formark, Co. Derby), of Theobald de Verdun, which is extended at 100*s.* by the year. And that John de Sherthales and the heirs of Robert de Farnham hold a knight's fee with appurtenances in Herteshorn, of the inheritance of the aforesaid Theobald, at £6 13*s.* 4*d.* The heirs of Robert Warde hold the moiety of one knight's fee with appurtenances in Neuhall, at £6 13*s.* 4*d.* Walter de Verdon and Philip de Baryngton held one knight's fee with appurtenances in Crakesmersh and Creygthon, at £13 6*s.* 8*d.* And that there is one knight's fee with appurtenances in Northovere, of the inheritance of the aforesaid Theobald, which is extended at £6 13*s.* 4*d.* by the year. And they say upon their oath that there are no advowsons of Churches in the aforesaid County of Stafford, by the inheritance aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

The purparty of Bartholomew de Burghersh and Elizabeth his wife.

The Manor of Crakemersh with appurtenances, in the County of Stafford, which Walter de Verdun holds for the term of his life, in value by the year £3 6*s.* 8*d.*

The Advowson of the Abbey of Crokesden in the County of Stafford.

The purparty of Thomas son and heir of Joan who was the wife of Thomas de Fournyvall.

Fees in demesne, Stafford.—One knight's fee with appurtenances in Northbury in the County of Stafford, which Ralph le Botiler holds and is extended at . . . 100*s.*

PRIOR OF RONTON.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Richard de Bilynton, that he may give and assign two messuages and two curtilages with appurtenances in Stafford, and to Robert de Knyghteleye, that he may give and assign 8*s.* of rent with appurtenances in Apeton, to the Prior and Convent of Ronton: in part satisfaction of a hundred shillingsworth of land and rent which Edward, late King of England, did grant by his Letters Patent that the same Prior and Convent might acquire (lands and tenements which were holden of the King's father excepted).—*Westminster, 6 March, 11 Edw. III.* (1337).

Inquisition made at Stafford, before the King's Escheator, on the 18th March, 11 Edw. III.: by the oath of Simon de Pikstoke, Richard de Offeleye, Richard le Pottere, Nicholas de Pikstok, Robert de Croft, Nicholas del Wold, Robert de Couleye, William Banastre, Hamo de Burgo, Roger le Child, William le Cok, and William de la Hurne. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King nor of others if the King grants to Richard de Bilynton, that he may give, etc. And they say that the aforesaid messuages and curtilages are holden of James de Stafford, Knight, by the service of twelve pence by the year. And the aforesaid 8*s.* of rent with appurtenances are holden of John de Coveleye by the service of 6*d.* by the year. And James de Stafford and Ralph de Stafford are the mesne lords between the Lord the King and the aforesaid Richard, of the messuages and curtilages aforesaid. And John de Coveleye and Thomas de Halughton, Chevalier, are the mesne lords between the King and the aforesaid Robert of the rent aforesaid. And they say that the aforesaid messuages and curtilages are worth by the year in all issues 3*s.* And they say that there remain to the aforesaid Richard ten librates of land and rent with appurtenances in Bilynton, and they are holden of William de Careswall by the service of the fourth part

of one knight's fee. And they say that there remains to the aforesaid Robert, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, the Manor of Knyghtleye, and it is holden of Thomas de Halughton by the service of ½ knight's fee. And the said Manor is worth by the year £20. And they say that the aforesaid lands and tenements remaining to the same Richard and Robert beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

MARGARET, DOWAGER LADY STAFFORD.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Margaret, who was the wife of Edmund de Stafford.—*Westminster*, 18 *March*, 11 *Edw. III.* (1337).

Inquisition made at Stafford, before the Escheator of the King on this side Trent, on 10th April, 11 Edw. III.: by the oath of Richard de Bilynton, William de Careswelle, Robert de Bowode, John de Cotes, John de Pikstok, Roger le Brut, John de la Doune, William de Ronton, William in le Hurne, Henry de Ronton, Robert de Cokeslone, and William de la Hethe. Who say upon their oath that Margaret, who was the wife of Edmund de Stafford, lately deceased, did not hold any lands or tenements in her demesne as of fee, on the day of her death, of the King *in capite*, nor of any other person;—but they say that the aforesaid Margaret held conjointly with the same Edmund de Stafford, her late husband, the Manors of Bradeleye and Madeleye with appurtenances in the County of Stafford, by gift and enfeoffment of Roger de Clongonford, Chaplain, who having full and peaceable seizin of the Manors aforesaid with the appurtenances, together with the other members and manors of the Barony of Stafford, did, by licence of the King and by a fine levied in the Court of the Lord the King thereof, enfeoff the aforesaid Edmund and Margaret: To have and to hold to the same Edmund and Margaret his wife, and the heirs of the body of the same Edmund begotten, then the aforesaid Manors, together with the other members and Manors of the Barony aforesaid, should remain to the right heirs of the aforesaid Edmund for ever. And they say that the aforesaid Margaret, on the day of her death, held the aforesaid Manors of Bradeleye and Madeleye with

appurtenances of the Lord the King, as members of the Barony of Stafford, which same Barony is entirely holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of two knights' fees and a half. In which same Manor of Bradeleye there is a certain chief messuage worth 3*s.* 4*d.*, together with the profit of the curtilage and the garden there, and no more on account of the reprises of the dwellings. And three carucates of land in demesne worth £4 and no more, because the third part of the same lies every year fallow, and in common. And 20 acres of meadow 20*s.* And a certain park, the pasture wherof is worth nothing by the year, beyond the support of the deer; and there is no underwood to the same. There are no pastures in severalty there. But there is there a certain wind-mill worth 10*s.* And of rent of assize of the Free tenants by the year £4 at the terms of St. Michael, St. Andrew, the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, and the Nativity of St. John the Baptist by equal portions. And there are there four native tenants why render by the year 10*s.* at the same terms. And the Pleas and Perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 13*s.* 4*d.*

They say also that there is at Madeleye a certain chief messuage, which is worth by the year 2*s.* And 180 acres of arable land, of which 120 are sowed every year, and they are worth by the year 40*s.*, and sixty acres are worth nothing by the year, because they lie every year fallow and in common. And there are there 10 acres of meadow worth 10*s.* and no more, because they are rushy. And a certain park the pasture worth 10*s.*; and there is no underwood there nor . . . , but there is there of rent of assize of the free tenants by the year 60*s.* at the terms aforesaid. There are no natives there; but the pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 6*s.* 8*d.* And they say that Ralph de Stafford, Chevaler, is the son and next heir of Edmund de Stafford, late husband of the aforesaid Margaret, and was of the age of thirty years and upwards at the Feast of St. Denis last past (October 9). And he did homage and fealty to the Lord the King for the entire Barony of Stafford during the life of the aforesaid Margaret.

In witness, etc.

PRIOR OF TRENTHAM.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Matilda Basset of Eton, that she may give and assign to the Prior and Convent of Trentham four messuages, forty acres of land, four acres of meadow and eighty acres of moor with appurtenances in Overelkeston and Netherelkeston: To have and to hold to them and their successors for ever, in part satisfaction of the ten librates of land and rent which the King by his Letters Patent did lately grant that the same Prior might acquire, as well in their own proper fee as in that of a stranger (lands, tenements, and rents which are holden of the King *in capite* excepted).—*Wyndesore*, 2 *May*, 11 *Edw. III.* (1337).

Inquisition made at Leek, before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, on the 16th May, 11 Edw. III.: by the oath of Ranulph de Locwud, Richard de Careswell, Robert de Alveton, William de Roucestre, John Engelard, Adam de Beresford, Richard de Wakes, Robert de Someri, John de Engelton, William de Kek, Adam de Meolewych, and Henry de Larden. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King nor of others if the Lord the King grants to Matilda Basset of Eton, that she may give, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid messuages, land, meadow, and moor are holden of John Trussel by the service of five shillings by the year. And they say that the aforesaid four messuages are worth by the year in all issues 8*s.* And that the aforesaid forty acres of land are worth by the year 10*s.*, the price of the acre 4*d.* And that the aforesaid four acres of meadow are worth 4*s.* And the aforesaid eighty acres of moor are worth by the year 13*s.* 4*d.* and no more, because it is entirely heath. And they say that John Trussel and John de Leybourne, Lord of Caus, are the mesne lords between the Lord the King and the aforesaid Matilda of the messuages, land, meadow, and moor aforesaid. And they say that there remain to the same Matilda, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, four librates of land and rent at Nonne Eton (Nuneaton) in the County of Warwick, and they are holden of Henry, Earl of Lancaster, by homage, for all service. And they say that the lands and tenements remaining to the same Matilda beyond the gift and

assignment aforesaid are sufficient, etc. Also that the County, by the gift and assignment aforesaid, will not be burthened nor aggrieved more than usual by the default of the heirs of the same Matilda.

In witness, etc.

PRIOR OF TRENTHAM.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Thomas le Demur and Alice his wife, that they may give and assign to the Prior and Convent of Trentham one messuage and sixteen acres of land with appurtenances in Trentham: To have and to hold to them and their successors in part satisfaction of the ten librates of land and rent which the King did grant by his Letters Patent that the same Prior and Convent might acquire for ever, as well in their own proper fee as in that of a stranger (lands, tenements and rents which are holden of the King *in capite* excepted).—*Westminster*, 26 *September*, 11 *Edw. III.* (1337).

Inquisition made at Newcastle-under-Lyme, before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, on the 8th October, 11 Edw. III.: by the oath of Ralph de Grendon, Richard de Onileye, John de Styvynton, John de Smalrys, Ralph Burgilon, Robert de Assheleye, William in le Stones, James de Letton, Richard de Chauldon, Henry de Neuport, Robert de Tonge, and William de Trentham. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the King nor of others if the King grants, etc. And they say that the aforesaid messuage and land are holden of John de Blorton by the service of two shillings by the year. And they say that the aforesaid messuage is worth by the year in all issues 12*d.* And that the aforesaid sixteen acres of land are worth by the year 5*s.* 4*d.* and no more, because the land is poor and sandy. And they say that John de Blorton holds the same of the aforesaid Prior, and the same Prior of the King, and there are no more mesne Lords between the Lord the King and the aforesaid Thomas and Alice of the messuage and land aforesaid than those aforesaid. And they say that there remains to the same Thomas and Alice, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, one messuage and one carucate of land with appurtenances in Trentham, and they are holden of the aforesaid John

de Blorton by the service of 12*d.* by the year. And they say that the aforesaid tenement is worth by the year 100*s.* And they say that the aforesaid lands and tenements remaining to the same Thomas and Alice beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid are sufficient, etc.

CHURCH OF COLWICH.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants to Geoffrey de Wolseleye, Chaplain, that he may give and assign to a certain Chaplain performing divine service daily, for the soul of the same Geoffrey and the souls of his father and mother and ancestors and of all the faithful deceased, in the Chapel of St. Chad in the parish church of Collewyche, two messuages, fifty acres of land and six acres of meadow with appurtenances in Wolseleye, Ruggeleye, Heywood, and Colton. To have and to hold to the same Chaplain and his successors for ever celebrating divine service every day as aforesaid.—*Westminster*, 6 *October*, 11 *Edw. III.* (1337).

Inquisition made at Bromleye Abbots before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, on the 16th October, 11 Edw. III.: by the oath of John de Aston, Richard de Falde, John son of Richard, William de Horewode, Richard de Neuton, John le Spenser, Robert de Colton, Robert de Liutlehay, Geoffrey de Asshe, William de Hambury, William de Hull, and Roger de Colewych. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor the prejudice of the King nor of others if the Lord the King grants to Geoffrey de Wolseleye, Chaplain, that he may give, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid messuages, land, and meadow are holden of Richard de Bromleye by the service of 10 shillings by the year. And the aforesaid messuages are worth by the year 3 shillings. And that the aforesaid fifty acres of land are worth 16*s.* 8*d.* and no more, because the land is stony. And the aforesaid six acres of meadow are worth 6*s.* and no more, because the meadow is rushy. And they say that the aforesaid Richard de Bromleye holds the same of the Abbot of Burton, and the same Abbot of the King, and there are no more mesne lords between the King and the aforesaid Geoffrey of the messuages,

land, and meadow aforesaid. And they say that there remain to the aforesaid Geoffrey, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, one messuage and 200 acres of land with appurtenances in Wolseleye, and they are holden of the aforesaid Richard de Bromleye by the service of two shillings by the year. And they are worth by the year in all issues £4. And they say that the lands and tenements remaining to the same Geoffrey, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

JOAN DE BOTTETOURT.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Joan, who was the wife of Thomas Botetourte.—*Westminster*, 12 *February*, 12 *Edw. III.* (1338).

Inquisition made at Honesworth, before the Escheator on this side Trent on the 24th February, 12 Edw. III.: by John de Herunwyll, Rŏbert de Wyrleye, John Dymmok, Henry de Derlaston, William le Cok, Henry Burgilon, Adam atte Ree, William Bracon, Robert de Derlaston, John le Squier, William atte Byrches, and Henry atte Hall. Who say upon their oath that Joan, who was the wife of Thomas Botetourt, deceased, held in her demesne as of fee on the day of her death the Manor of Mere, with appurtenances, of the King *in capite*, viz., at fee farm by the service of rendering yearly at the King's Exchequer £10, by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford. In which same Manor there is a certain chief messuage, together with the profit of the curtilage and garden there worth 3*s.* 4*d.* and no more, on account of the reprises of the dwellings there. And there is there one carucate of arable land worth 13*s.* 4*d.* and no more, because the land is poor and sandy, and the third part of the same lies every year fallow and in common. And a certain several pasture worth 6*s.* 8*d.* And a certain coneyborough[1] worth 12*d.* And a certain Piscary, which is called la Mere, the profit whereof is worth £4. And a certain water-mill worth 100*s.* And of Rent of Assize of the Free tenants by the year 8*s.* 3*d.*, at the Terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael by equal portions. And of Rent of Assize of

[1] Rabbit-warren.

the Customary tenants by the year 20 marks at the same Terms ; of which there is paid every year to the King for the farm above-said £10 at the Exchequer. And the Pleas and Perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 20*s.*

They say also that the aforesaid Joan Botetourte held in her demesne as of fee, on the day of her death, the Manor of Honesworth as member of the Barony of Duddeleye, which same whole Barony is holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of two knights' fees and a half. In which same Manor there is a certain chief messuage worth 3*s.* 4*d.* And a certain carucate of land worth 13*s.* 4*d.* and no more, because the land is very poor and stony. And a certain meadow worth 13*s.* 4*d.* And a certain park, the profit of which is worth 3*s.* 4*d.* and no more, on account of the keeping up of deer. And there is no underwood in the same, because it was wholly cut down in the time of the aforesaid Joan. And there is there a certain coneyborough, the profit of which is worth 12*d.* And of Rent of Assize of the free and customary tenants by the year £10 6*s.* $0\frac{3}{4}$*d.* The Pleas and Perquisites of the Court there are worth by the year 13*s.* 4*d.*

They say also that the aforesaid Joan Botetourte held in her demesne as of fee, on the day of her death, the vill of Clent, of the King *in capite*, viz., at fee farm, by the service of 100*s.* by the year, to be rendered at the Exchequer of the King by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford. In which same vill there is contained no messuage, land, meadow, pasture, mill, nor the like. But they say that there is of Rent of Assize of divers tenants there by the year £8 4*s.* 4*d.* at the Terms aforesaid. Out of which the aforesaid rent of 100*s.* fee farm is paid yearly to the King at the Exchequer. And they say that the Pleas and Perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 3*s.* 4*d.* They say also that John Botetourt,[1] son of the aforesaid Joan, is the next heir of the same Joan, and he was of the age of nineteen years and a half and upwards at the Feast of the Exaltation of Holy Cross last past (May 3). And they say that the aforesaid Joan held no other lands nor tenements of any other person in the afore-said County of Stafford, in her demesne as of fee, on the day of her death, except of the Lord the King.

In witness, etc.

[1] Joan was sister and co-heiress of John de Somery, lord of Dudley.

PRIOR OF LAPLEY.

Petition from the Prior of Lappeleye to the King and his council, showing that the Priory of Lappeleye is taken into the King's hand, and let to farm to secular persons at so exorbitant an extent that the same farmers cannot raise the farm without causing destruction of the woods and other goods and chattels belonging to the same Priory; and so the same Priory is being destroyed, and nothing is apportioned for the sustenance of the said Prior, who goes about the country begging for his bread, while the alms, charities and divine services which were accustomed to be performed in the said Priory are entirely withdrawn; notwithstanding all which the King does not receive his farm. The Prior therefore prays the King and council to grant a writ to the Escheator, or to the Sheriff of the same place, to extend the said Priory to its true value, and to inquire concerning the destructions made in the same, and to certify the Court thereof, so that the same Prior may have the wardship of his said Priory according to the same Extent, and that he may have his sustenance and be able to do the alms, divine services, and charities which belong to the same Priory out of the remainder; and that he in the meantime may have the wardship of the said Priory, so that it may not be destroyed.

On the back of the Petition.—Forasmuch as it is testified by great and trustworthy persons before the Council that the said Priory is much destroyed in various ways, more than it was wont to be, let certain persons in whom the King can place trust be appointed to extend the lands and tenements with the appurtenances belonging to the said Priory, to the true value thereof. Let the same Priory be let to the Prior of the same place for the said Extent, if it pleases the King. And let there be appointed Master Thomas de Halghton, Master Roger Hillary, Master Henry de Hambury or two of them to extend, etc.

Mandate to the Sheriff of Stafford, reciting the above petition and mandate, and commanding the same Sheriff to cause to come before the above mentioned at the days and places which they shall make known to him so many and such good and lawful men of his bailiwick, by whom the truth of the

premises may be better known, etc.—*Westminster*, 20 *February*, 12 *Edw. III.* (1338).

Extent of the Priory of Lappeleye, and of all the profits belonging to the same, made before Thomas de Halghton and Henry de Hombury, assigned by the King's writ to make the said Extent, at Stafford, on Friday next after the Feast of St. Gregory the Pope, 12 Edw. III.: by the oath of Richard de Wenlok, John de Hodynet, Adam Henry of Stretton, William de Engelton, John de Bykeforde, Richard de Burgh of Halghton, John de Bruynton, William de Wode of Couleye, Henry de Wolaston, William del Donne, John Clerk of Bradeleye, and Thomas Robert of Levedale. Who say that the Chief Manse of the Priory in Lappeleye, with the curtilage and garden adjoining, is worth by the year beyond the reprise 16*d.* Also a certain decayed dovecote worth 6*d.* Also 20 acres of meadow, each acre worth 2*s.* Also three acres of several pasture, each acre worth 4*d.* Also about 10 acres of wood, and the most is worth, when it happens, 40*d.* And there is no underwood, because it is destroyed for payment of the farm of the King. Also a certain wind-mill worth 6*s.* 8*d.* Also free tenants, of whom Walter de Ridgeware, who holds of the Prior the Manor of Rideware Hamstal by Grand Serjeanty, renders by the year 5*s.* 4*d.* at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John. Also Richard de Haukeston holds of the same Prior the Manor of Silveston, and renders by the year 20*s.* for all things at the Feast of St. Martin. They say also that John Trussel of Cubblesdon holds of the same Prior the moiety of the vill of Mefford, and renders by the year 16*s.*, but they say that the said Prior has not dared to distrain for the same. There are in the same Manor thirteen customary tenants of ancient tenure, each of whom renders by the year 18½*d.* at the Feast of St. Martin, and every one of them ought to plough for one day with his plough at the winter sowing, and to harrow his ploughing, and to have his food from the Prior, and the day's work of each beyond the food is worth 2*d.* They say also that each of the thirteen tenants ought to plough for one day and to harrow at the Lenten sowing, without food from the Prior, and the work of each is worth 3 pence; also each of them ought to cut the hay in le Mormidwe and le Mershemedwe and to carry the hay for a day, and to have food

from the Prior, and the work of each is worth beyond the food one penny. And likewise every one of them ought to mow with the Prior for one day in the autumn and to have food, and the work of each beyond the food is worth 1*d.* They say also that the said Prior ought to have, after the decease of each of the same thirteen tenants, his best beast in the name of a heriot, and his male horses and male pigs if he shall have any. Also the same Prior has there a free court by demise of the King, rendering to the King by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford 5 marks, and he takes nothing beyond. Also the same Prior has there another Court of his customary tenants, which is worth by the year 13*s.* 4*d.*, as in pleas and perquisites. Also the same Prior has there the Church of Lappeleye for his own use, and it is worth 10 marks, the Vicarage excepted. They say also that the Prior has at Whetenaston a messuage called "le mote," and it is worth by the year 12*d.*, and a certain water-mill with a running stream except in the winter time. And the said mill is worth one mark and no more, because the stream is destroyed for the payment of the King's farm. They say also that there are there forty customary tenants of ancient tenure, each of whom ought to render by the year to the Prior 3*s.* 1*d.* at the Feast of St. Martin. And each of them ought to plough by himself, and to harrow, reap and mow in the autumn, in the same way as a tenant of Lappeleye. They say also that there are at Merston eight tenants, each of whom ought to render to the Prior by the year 3*s.* 1*d.* at the Feast of St. Martin, and they do no works, but each of them ought to give after his decease the same as the other tenants of Lappeleye. But of the free tenants they say as above, that the same Prior has not dared to distrain.

In witness, etc.

CHARTLEY.

Mandate directed to William Trussel, the King's Escheator on this side Trent, reciting that, whereas the King heretofore wishing to be certified of the manner and cause of the capture into the King's hands by the same Escheator of a hundred acres of land, ten acres of meadow, a hundred acres of pasture, and eleven librates and 12*s.* of rent with appurtenances, in

Chartelee, Grenlee, Merebrok, and Ambricton, which were of Thomas de Ferrers, Chivaler, he (the King) had commanded the same Escheator to certify into the King's Chancery the manner and cause thereof; and the same Sheriff had signified unto him that he had taken the tenements aforesaid into the King's hands, because Robert de Ferrers, who held the Manor of Chartelee with appurtenances of the King *in capite*, had alienated therefrom the lands and tenements aforesaid to the aforesaid Thomas, without obtaining the King's licence therefor. The King having been informed, on behalf of Thomas de Lambourne and Elizabeth his wife, daughter and heir of the aforesaid Thomas de Ferrers, that the tenements aforesaid are parcel of the aforesaid Manor of Chartelee, and that the same Manor is holden of Edward, Duke of Cornwall and Earl of Chester, the King's son, by knight's service, and not of the King. The King having been prayed to cause his hand to be amoved from the same tenements, therefore wishes to be certified fully concerning the premises, and to do that which is just to the same Thomas de Lambourne and Elizabeth. The Escheator is therefore commanded, etc.—*Westminster, 22 June, 12 Edw. III.* (1338).

Inquisition made before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, at Stane, on the 18th July, 12 Edw. III.: by the oath of Ralph de Grendon, John de Okovere, William Griffyn, Richard de Wenlok, John de Stalbrok, Thomas de Venables, John de Haneyate, John de Styvynton, Robert de Careswall, . . . de Smalrys, William Bithewater, and Robert son of John de Colton. Who say upon their oath that a 100 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, a 100 acres of pasture, and £11 12*s.* 0*d.* of rent with appurtenances in Charteleye, Grenlee, Merebrok, and Ambricton, which were of Thomas de Ferrers, Chevaler, are parcels of the Manor of Chartelee. And they say that the aforesaid Manor of Chartelee is holden of Edward, Duke of Cornwall, *in capite*, as of the Honor of Chester, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee. And they say that the aforesaid tenements are worth by the year in all issues according to the true value of the same £15.

In witness, etc.

WALSALL.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Ralph Basset de Drayton, Chevaler, that he may retain and hold to himself and his heirs, of the King and his heirs for the services therefor due and accustomed for ever, the moiety of the Manor of Walsale with appurtenances, which he acquired in fee without obtaining the King's licence of Alicia l'Archer, who held the same of the King *in capite*, as it is said.—*Byflet*, 18 *December*, 12 *Edw. III.* (1338).

Inquisition taken at Walshale in the County of Stafford before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, on Thursday on the morrow of the Epiphany (7 Jan., 1339): by the oath of William de Bouweles, Henry de Teddesleye, Robert de Pype, Roger de Gryggeleye, Roger de le Peek, William Huwet, William Jones of Bloxwich, John Marchys the elder, William Marchis, John Marchis the younger, Walter Deryday, and William del Heth. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the Lord the King nor of others if the King grants, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid moiety is holden of the King *in capite* by the service of forty shillings by the year for all service, to be paid by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford for the time being. And it is worth by the year, beyond the service aforesaid, £4, according to the true value of the same. They say also that there remain no lands nor tenements to the aforesaid Alicia in fee; but they say that she holds the third part of the Manor of Sibertoft in dower. And it is worth by the year in all issues £10.

In witness, etc.

ABBEY OF DEULACRES.

Mandate directed to William Trussel, the King's Escheator on this side Trent, stating that the King wishes to be certified of the cause of the caption into the King's hands, by the same Escheator, of the Manor of Leek, belonging to the Abbot of Deulacres. The Escheator is therefore commanded, etc.—*Berkhampstede*, 1 *July*, 13 *Edw. III.* (1339).

I have found by Inquisition made before me by virtue of my office that Richard, heretofore Abbot of Deulacres, a predecessor of the now Abbot there, purchased to him and to his house the Manor of Lek, of which mention is made in the writ to this return sewed, of Ranulph, heretofore Earl of Chester,[1] after the publishing of the Statute of Mortmain, without having obtained the King's licence for the same. On account whereof I took the same Manor into the hand of the Lord the King.

Writ addressed to William Trussel, Escheator on this side the Trent, commanding to certify to the King the cause of the caption into the King's hands of the Manor of Leek belonging to the Abbot of Deulacres in the County of Stafford.—*Windsor*, 8 *September*, 13 *Edw. III.* (1339).

An Inquisition taken at Leek before the King's Escheator on this side the Trent on the 25th September, 13 Edw. III.: by the oath of Ralph Basset, Ranulph de Tetesworth, John de Preston, Simon de Grendon, Ranulph de Lockwode, Robert de Bradeyerd, William de Onecote, Richard de Leek, Henry de Rodeyerd, and William de Scene, who say that Ranulph, formerly Earl of Chester, sometime before the publication of the Statute of Mortmain, viz., for sixty years previous, at his foundation of the Abbey of Deulacres, did in his first charter of foundation confer on the same Abbey and the Monks there serving God the whole Manor of Leek with appurtenances, in the County of Stafford, in which said Manor the aforesaid Abbey is situated; and he did found the said Abbey, to hold to the same Abbot and his house in pure and perpetual alms for ever; and the Lord the King and his progenitors did, by their Letters Patent, confirm the same charter. And so Richard, formerly Abbot of Deulacres, who was the first Abbot of that house, entered upon the same Manor, and was thereof peaceably seized, and he and his successors have continued in their seizin of the same peaceably until now. And that the said Earl held the aforesaid Manor of the progenitors of the Lord the King that now is, as parcel of the County of Chester. Also they say that the same Manor is worth yearly in all issues twenty marks.

In witness, etc.

[1] Randle, Earl of Chester, died in 1232, about sixty years *before* the Statute of Mortmain was passed.

JOHN DE BENTLEY.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Benteley.—*Langele*, 12 *December*, 13 *Edw. III.* (1339).

Inquisition made before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, at Wulvernehampton, on the 18th January, 13 Edw. III.: by the oath of John de Bradeleye, Richard Buffrey, William de Finchyngfeld, John de Preestewode, William Le Boys, William le Keu, Richard de Hethe, William atte Necheles, William de Saltford, Thomas de Broke, Richard de Peoleshale, and William Buffrey, who say upon their oath that John de Beenteleye, deceased, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, one messuage and 40 acres of land, one acre of meadow, one acre of pasture and one acre of wood with appurtenances in Benteleye, of the King *in capite*, by the service of keeping the Haye of the Lord the King, of Benteleye, and of rendering besides at the King's exchequer 13*s.* 4*d.* by the hands of the Steward of the King's Forest of Cannok for the said Haye by the year. And they say that the said messuage is worth nothing by the year beyond the reprises. But they say that the aforesaid 40 acres of land are worth by the year 10*s.*, the price of the acre 3*d.* and no more, because the third part thereof lies fallow every year and in common. And the said acre of meadow is worth 12*d.* and no more, because it is rushy. And the pasture is worth 6*d.* And the pasture of the aforesaid acre of wood is worth 3*d.* And there is no underwood. And they say that the custody of the said Haye is worth by the year 3*s.* 4*d.* beyond the farm above said. And they say that the aforesaid John did not hold any other lands or tenements of any other Lords in the aforesaid County of Stafford other than the Lord the King. And they say that John de Benteleye, son of John son of the aforesaid John de Benteleye, is the next heir of the same John, and he was of the age of ten years and upwards at the feast of St. Michael last past (September 29).

In witness, etc.

WILLIAM TRUMWYN.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of William Tromewyn.—*Kenyngton*, 10 *February*, 14 *Edw. III.* (1340).

Inquisition made at Pencrich, on the 8th March, 14 Edw. III., before the King's Escheator on this side Trent, viz., by Roger de Careswall, Adam Henrys of Stretton, Robert de Lynhull, Richard in le Birches, John de la More, John del Butheme, Adam Salwey, John son of Reginald, Ranulph in le Birches, Richard Don of Pencrich, William atte Brok, and Richard de Acton. Who say upon their oath that William Tromewyn held of the King *in capite*, on the day of his death, in the vill of Cannokbury in the County of Stafford, one messuage, which is worth nothing by the year beyond the reprises, because the dwellings of the same are ruinous, and one virgate of land worth 5*s.* and no more, because the land is sandy, by the service of Grand Serjeanty ; viz., the custody of the King's haye of Chistlyn, and there are no other profits there. And they say that the aforesaid William held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, in the aforesaid vill of Cannokbury, one hundred acres of land of the bishop of Chester by the service of 10*s.* by the year, and the aforesaid hundred acres of land are worth 30*s.* and no more, because the land is sandy. And he held there of the aforesaid bishop a certain water-mill worth 6*s.* 8*d.* And they say that the aforesaid William did not hold any other lands or tenements in the County aforesaid of any other lords. And they say that William Tromewyn, son of the aforesaid William, is the next heir of the same William, and he was of the age of 24 years and upwards at the Feast of St. Michael last past.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE SWYNNERTON.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Swynnerton.—*Westminster*, 27 *February*, 14 *Edw. III.* (1340).

Inquisition made at Pencrich on the 8th March, 14 Edw. III., before the King's Escheator on this side Trent : by the oath of Roger de Careswalle, Adam Henrys of Stretton, William Walters of Pylatenhale, William de Stretton, John de Gnosale, John del More, William de Engelton, Robert de Lynhull, John de Botheme, Thomas Robert, Roger de Draicote, and John de Gauleye, who say upon their oath that John de Swynnerton held of the King *in capite*, on the day of his death, according to the law of England, of the inheritance of Anna daughter of Philip de

Mont Gomeri, formerly wife of the same John, by reason of the offspring had between them, the stewardship and bailiwick of keeping the King's Forest of Cannok, and one half virgate of land in Frodeleye, and one assart and one meadow in Hopewas, without rendering anything therefor to the King. And the aforesaid stewardship, bailiwick, etc., are holden of the King *in capite* by Grand Serjeanty, viz., keeping the aforesaid Forest. And they are worth by the year in all issues 20*s.* And they say that John, son of the aforesaid John de Swynnerton and Anna, is the next heir of the aforesaid Anna of the aforesaid Stewardship, land, assart, and meadow above said.

And they say that the aforesaid John de Swynnerton held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, of the Dean and Chapter of Wulvernehampton, in Hulton, two messuages, ten acres of land, and half an acre of meadow, by the service of 3*s.* 4*d.* by the year; and the two messuages are worth 2*s.* And the ten acres of land are worth 40*d.*, and the half acre of meadow is worth 6*d.* And John de Swynnerton held in the same vill 10*s.* of yearly rent of the aforesaid Dean and Chapter, payable at four terms by equal portions. And there are there no other profits.

And they say that John de Swynnerton held in his demesne, as of fee, on the day of his death, in Esyngton, two virgates and a half of land of Robert de Esyington, by the service of two shillings by the year, and the 2½ virgates of land are worth half a mark and no more, because the land is sandy, and the third part of the same land lies fallow every year and in common.

And they say that John de Swynnerton held in his demesne, as of fee, on the day of his death, in Pylatenhale, the fourth part of one virgate of land of William de Pylatenhale by the service of 6*d.* by the year, and they say that the aforesaid fourth part is worth by the year 40*d.*

And they say that the aforesaid John, son of the aforesaid John de Swynnerton and Anna, is the next heir of the same John de Swynnerton of the tenements of Hulton, Esyington, and Pylatenhale aforesaid. And they say that he was of the age of thirty years and upwards at the Feast of All Saints last past (Nov. 1).

In witness, etc.

THOMAS DE FURNIVAL.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Thomas de Fournival.—*Kenyngton*, 16 *October*, 13 *Edw. III.* (1339).

Extent of the Castle and Manor of Alveton with its members and appurtenances in the County of Stafford, which were of Thomas de Fournival, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, taken at Alveton before Thomas de Metham, Escheator of the King on this side Trent, on the 10th May, 14 Edw. III.: by the oath of Robert Brown of Alveton, Richard de Stone of the same place, Richard de Schagh, Richard de Fernelay, John Perkyn, William son of Richard of Alveton, Richard Baker of the same place, Robert Honde, John Botte of Denston, Richard Bell, John Cerygaunt (?), and Roger Deynill, Jurors. Who say upon their oath that there is at Alveton a certain castle, but it is worth nothing by the year within the walls; and there is there a certain plot called the Lodge of the said Castle, with a certain ruinous dovecote, worth 12*d.* And a certain messuage called le Wodhous, worth as in easements of dwellings and herbage in the summer 18*d.* And in demesne 240 acres of land poor and marshy, each acre whereof is worth by the year, if it could be demised, 4*d.* Total, £4, but it lies wholly uncultivated, because no one will take it in hand, and the herbage is worth nothing by the year on account of the abundance of pasture in those parts. And there are at Pole 3 acres of meadow, worth each acre 9*d.* And there are at Denstyn 3 acres of poor meadow, worth 3*s.* And at Salterfortherigg 4 acres of meadow, worth 3*s.* 4*d.* And divers plots of meadow containing 10 acres, worth 8*s.* 4*d.* And a certain park of oaks with deer, in which there is no underwood, but the herbage in the same park is worth in summer, beyond the support of the deer remaining in the same park, 20*s.*, and it is worth nothing in the winter on account of the abundance of pasture in those parts. And a certain plot, in which is situate a certain dwelling and one vaccary, which is called Wrubden, worth as in easements of dwellings and herbage in the summer 6*s.* 8*d.* And a certain market holden on Monday, the toll whereof, together with the profit of a certain common oven there, is worth 33*s.* 4*d.* And a certain Fair at the Feast of the Exaltation of Holy Cross, the toll whereof is worth 12*d.* And

there is at Alveton of rent of the free tenants by the year £8 5*s.* 0½*d.*, at the terms of the Purification of the Blessed Mary, Pentecost, and St. Michael, and one pound and a half and ⅛ lb. of pepper; the price 19½*d.*, at the Nativity of Our Lord. And 1 lb. of cumin, price 1*d.*, at the same term. And there are at Denston of rent of the free tenants 13*s.* 8*d.*, at the Terms of St. Martin, Easter, and St. Michael, viz., 2*s.* 9*d.*, at the Feast of St. Martin, and the remainder at the said terms, and 3 qrs. of wheat, 12*s.*, at the said Term of St. Martin. And of rent of the tenants at will £4 15*s.* 2*d.*, at the four terms of the year. And one strike of wheat at the Feast of St. Martin. And at Bradlegh of rent of the free tenants by the year £4 10*s.* 3*d.* at the four terms; and four horseshoes with clouts, by the year, price 4*d.*, at the Nativity of Our Lord. And one work in the autumn, price 1½*d.* beyond the reprise. And . . . penny halfpenny at the Nativity of our Lord. And of rent of tenants at will by the year £8, at the four terms. And at Farlegh of rent of the free tenants 57*s.*, at the same four terms. And of rent of the tenants at will by the year £8 14*s.* 2½*d.*, at the same four terms. And there is at Calneton (Caldon) one free tenant tendering by the year 13*s.* 4*d.*, at the Terms of Easter and St. Michael. And there are at Coton of rent of the free tenants 12*s.* 8*d.*, at the two terms aforesaid. And of rent of the tenants at will by the year 31*s.* 10*d.*, at the four terms. And there are at Wyston of rent of the free tenants by the year 7*s.* 1¼*d.*, at the Terms of St. Martin and St. John the Baptist. And of rent of tenants at will by the year 29*s.* 7¼*d.*, at the same two terms. And at Stanton of rent of the free tenants 19*s.* 4*d.*, at the terms of St. Martin, Easter, St. James the Apostle, and 3 strikes of wheat at the Feast of St. Martin, price 18*d.* And of rent of tenants at will by the year 73*s.* 1*d.*, at the same three terms. And there are at Strongkeshill (Stramshall) of rent of the free tenants 33*s.* 4*d.*, at the terms of St. Martin, Easter, and St. Michael, viz., 13*s.* 4*d.*, at the Feast of St. Martin. And of rent of the free tenants every third year for *Stuth* 10*s.*, at the two terms. And of rent of the free tenants every year for three ploughs in Lent 15*d.*, at the same terms. And of rent of the free tenants by the year, 4½ qrs. of wheat, 18*s.*, at the Feast of St. Martin for the whole year. And there are at Caverswall and at Onecote of rent of the free tenants 14*s.*, at the two terms. And

there are at Consale and Rouhale (Rownall) of rent of the free tenants 8*s.* 8*d.*, at St. Michael, for the entire year. And there is at Ipstanes of rent of one free tenant 5*s.* 1*d.*, at the two terms. And there is at Kyngeslay of rent of one free tenant at the Feast of St. Martin 12*d.* for the whole year. They say also that the pleas and perquisites of Courts in the Manor aforesaid are worth by the year 20*s.* and no more, on account of the poverty and destitution of the tenants there.

And there are at Alveton two water-mills in the hands of the tenants at will, and they render three weeks in the year a ½ qr. of wheat, price 2*s.*, and 1½ qrs. of mesline, price 4*s.*, and 30 quarters of malt of oats by the year, 45*s.*, and 3 quarters of malt of wheat by the year, 9*s.*, and 6 quarters of oats by the year, 7*s.* 6*d.*; and there is at Coton one poor water-mill, and it is worth by the year 20*s.* And there is in the same Manor at Thoraldeswod a certain small wood, the herbage whereof is worth in summer 2*s.* And there is at Stanton a certain plot called Whitlegh, the herbage whereof is worth in summer 18*d.* and nothing in winter. And half a carucate of poor land which lies entirely waste and uncultivated, on account of the poverty of the same, but the herbage thereof is worth in summer 3*s.* And there is at Bradeleye one bovate of land which lies waste and uncultivated for default of tenants, and it is worth nothing by the year in herbage nor in any other profit, on account of the poverty of the same.

They say that the manors and tenements aforesaid with their members and appurtenances are holden of the Lord the King *in capite* as of the crown. And they say that Thomas, son of Thomas de Fournival, is the next heir of the aforesaid Thomas, and he is of the age of 17 years.

In witness, etc.

LEEK.

An Inquisition made before John Fitz-Herberd of Twycros, Escheator of the King in Stafford, etc., at Leek, on the 12th December, 14 Edw. III. (1340): by the oath of John de Aunderneys, John Le Fysshere, John Jake, Richard de Morrugge, Robert de Sheppeford, Robert Le Harpere, Thomas

de Longehanche, Roger de Southwatte, Adam son of Roger, Henry de Brydon, Richard Wolf, and Richard del Wall, who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage or prejudice of the King, nor of any other person, if the King grants to William, vicar of the Church of Leek, that he may be able to grant to a certain chaplain, performing Divine service at the altar of St. Mary in the church of Leek daily, one messuage and twelve acres of land, and the mediety of one messuage with appurtenances in Leek, which William Le Prentys of Leek, chaplain, holds for the term of his life of the demise of the aforesaid William the vicar, and which, after the death of the aforesaid William Le Prentys, ought to revert to the aforesaid William the vicar and his heirs; to have and to hold to the same chaplain and his successors performing Divine service daily at the altar of St. Mary in the church aforesaid forever. And they say that the aforesaid messuage, lands, and the mediety of the messuage are holden of the Abbot of Deulacres by the service of one penny yearly, according to the true value of the same, for all service; and they say that the aforesaid messuage, etc., are worth yearly in all issues 6*d*. And the Abbot of Deulacres is Lord between the King and the aforesaid William the vicar, and they say that no lands nor tenements will remain to the same William the vicar after the grant aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

GEOFFREY LE SCROPE.

Mandate directed to John de Perton, the King's Escheator in the counties of Stafford, etc.: reciting that the King, having received intelligence of the death of Geoffrey Lescrope, who held of the King *in capite* on the day of his death, on the 11th December last past; he had commanded the various Sheriffs throughout the Kingdom to take into his hands all the lands and tenements of which the same Geoffrey was seized in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, in their bailiwicks, and to keep the same safely until he should otherwise command, etc., etc., as appears by inspection of the Rolls of Chancery. The King now directs John de Perton to take the same lands into the King's hands, etc., etc. And by the oath of lawful and good men to inquire, etc.—*Westminster*, 21 *January*, 14 *Edw. III.* (1341).

Inquisition made before John de Perton at Thomworde (Tamworth), on Saturday next after the Feast of St. Gregory the Pope, 15 Edw. III. (17 Mar., 1341): by the oath of Richard Breton, Henry de la Stanydelf, William de Neuton, Roger Pecok of the same place, Ralph Coc of the same place, John Dyesone, Alan son of Perys, William le Pope, Richard Tubbe, Thomas son of William, who say upon their oath that Geoffrey le Scrope held nothing in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite*, in the county of Stafford. But they say that the same Geoffrey held in his demesne as of fee on the day of his death a certain yearly rent of eight pounds at Thorp, of Giles de Meynil, by the service of half a knight's fee, to be received at the four terms of the year by equal portions. And they say that Henry le Scrope, son and heir of the aforesaid Geoffrey, is the next heir of the aforesaid Geoffrey, and he was of the age of 28 years at the Feast of St. Michael last past.

In witness, etc.

DEANERY OF WOLVERHAMPTON.

Letters Patent, addressed to Henry de Bisshebury and Roger Hillary, reciting that the King has been informed that several defects have appeared in the books, vestments and other ornaments of the King's Free chapel of Wolvernehampton, as well as in the manse houses and other things pertaining to the Deanery of the same Chapel, in the time of Master Hugh Elis, Dean of the aforesaid Chapel; and that the goods and possessions of the said Deanery were wasted and dissipated in contempt of the King, and destruction of the chapel and Divine worship, and in diminution and manifest subtraction of the works of piety, which ought to be performed there, and were established there of olden time. The King, remembering that no other person than himself can interfere or provide a remedy in this behalf—because his said Free chapel is wholly free and exempt from ordinary jurisdiction—has therefore assigned the said Henry and Roger to survey the state not only of the aforesaid chapel, but also of the manse houses and other things pertaining to the same Deanery, and to inquire, by the oath of good and lawful men of

the County of Stafford, in the presence as well of the King's clerk, Philip de Weston, to whom the King has given the same Deanery—or his attorney—as of the Executors of the will of the said Hugh, or of those into whose hands his goods and chattels have come, what were the defects, etc., which happened in the time of the said Master Hugh, etc.—*Westminster* 3 *March*, 15 *Edw. III.* (1341).

An Inquisition made before Henry de Bisshebury and Roger Hillary, at Wolvernehampton, on Monday next after the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul (2 July, 1341): by the oath of Roger Buffry, John de Bradeleye, William de Saltford, Adam de Shareshull, John Robert of Wodnesfeld, William Bon del Echeles, William son of Hugh Buffry, Roger atte Forde, John de Lappeleye, Robert Olyver, John son of John de Hampton, and Roger de Huggeford, who say that the defects of the Hall and Chamber in the Manse of the Deanery of Wolvernehampton, in the time of Master Hugh Elis, late Dean of the same Deanery, cannot be repaired for less than half a mark; and that the defects in the kitchen and the wall thereof cannot be repaired for less than half a mark; and that the defects of the grange there cannot be repaired for less than two marks; and that the defects of the bovery and the roof of the porch there cannot be repaired for less than two marks; and that three cottages in the demesne lands of the said Deanery at Wodnesfeld have been pulled down and carried away and cannot therefore be restored, as they formerly had been, for less than 30*s.*; and that Master Hugh Ellis committed waste in the woods of Pelsale, which is a portion of the demesnes of the said Deanery, viz., by cutting down and selling oaks to the value of £10; and that the defects of the mill and pool "Del Dom mulne" cannot be repaired for less than four marks; and that the tithes of the said Deanery due to the Lord the King, in the time of the said Hugh, which are in arrear, are as much as ten marks—and that Simon de Ruggeleye had seven oxen of the aforesaid Hugh, each worth 8*s.* Also they say that Thomas de Arleye had brass utensils of the gift of the aforesaid Hugh Elys, while he lived, worth 40*s.*; and that the aforesaid Thomas had a certain horse of the gift of the aforesaid Hugh, while he was alive, worth 40*s.*; and that the aforesaid Thomas had one maizer of the gift of the said Hugh worth 40*s.*;

and that the aforesaid Thomas had one piece of silver of the gift of the aforesaid Hugh worth half a mark; and that the aforesaid Thomas had of the gift of the aforesaid Hugh 24 pewter dishes and 12 pewter salt-cellars worth 4*s.*; and all those goods which the said Thomas had, the aforesaid Hugh, while he was alive, commanded him to take at his pleasure. Also they say that William de Marnham had 24 pewter dishes and 12 pewter salt-cellars of the gift of the aforesaid Hugh worth 4*s.* Also they say that Robert de Middleton took and carried away the underwritten goods, which belonged to the aforesaid Hugh, and which were put in his church for the purpose of safe custody, viz., one silver-gilt cup worth 100*s.*, and two silver cups worth 40*s.*, and six pieces of silver worth six marks, and one silver ewer worth one mark, and 24 silver spoons worth 24*s.*, and 16 marks of silver in ready money, and one golden brooch with four great Oriental pearls worth four marks, and one pair of silver "*anees*" worth half a mark, and one piece of the Holy Cross inclosed in another cross of gold worth £10, and eight maizers worth £4, and six "alvers" worth 40*s.*; and one "*portiforium*" worth one mark, and one pair of . . . worth 40*s.*, and two psalters worth one mark, and one new robe entire worth ten marks, and two "fieldings" worth two marks, and one entire bed worth 40*s.*, and thirteen sheets worth 20*s.*, and two "dorsars" worth one mark, and four basins worth 10*s.*, and one "puling" of silk and gold worth half a mark, and two silver seals with silken chains worth half a mark, and precious stones worth 40*s.*, and silken zones worth 40*s.*, and two pairs of garters worked in silver worth 20*s.*, and one palfrey worth four marks, and one horse worth 10*s.*, and two swords worth one mark, and two napkins and two towels worth half a mark, and one cart, iron bound, worth 10*s.*, and hay worth 10*s.*, and oats in sheaves worth 5*s.* And they say that no defects were found, during the time of Master Hugh Elys, in the books, vestments, and other ornaments of the chapel aforesaid, which ought to be supplied by the Dean of the chapel aforesaid, by reason of his aforesaid Deanery.

In witness, etc.

BUSHBURY—Felony.

Mandate directed to the Sheriff of Stafford, commanding him to inquire, by the oaths of good and lawful men, whether or not two acres of land with appurtenances in Bysshebury, which Robert son of Adam de Twychele held, who was hanged for the felony which he committed, have been in the King's hands for a year and a day, and of whom, etc.—*Westminster,* 15 *Edw. III.* (1341).

Inquisition made at Bysshebury, before Thomas de Swynnerton, Sheriff of Stafford, on Wednesday next before the Feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle (June, 1341), by Adam atte Lowe, Thomas atte Broke, William atte Forde, Adam Tomkyns, William de Prestewode, Philip de Oldefallying, Thomas Undeshall, Hugh de Wylaston, Roger Neighbor, Roger atte Wode, Adam Henrys, and Richard Dauken. Who say upon their oath that Adam Tomykns of Oldefallyng enfeoffed Adam atte Twychele for the term of his life with two acres of land with appurtenances in Bysshebury. Also that, after the decease of the said Adam atte Twychele, the two acres of land ought to remain to Robert, son of Adam atte Twychele, and his heirs for ever, which Robert was hanged for the felony he committed. And the two acres of land are holden of Henry de Bysshebury. And Adam atte Twychele survived Robert, son of Adam de Twychele, for ten days, and after the decease of Adam atte Twychele, Thomas, son and heir of Adam atte Twychele, entered into the said two acres of land and had the year, day, and waste thereof, and he ought to answer to the King for the same. And afterwards he alienated the said two acres of land to Hugh de Smetheuyk, Chaplain, who now holds the same.

In witness, etc.

COLWICH CHURCH.

Writ addressed to John de Periton, the King's Escheator in Staffordshire, etc., commanding him to inquire whether or not it will be to the damage or prejudice of the King or any other person if the King do grant to Geoffrey de Wolseley, clerk, that he may give and assign a rent of 30*s.* in Lycheffeld to a certain chaplain

performing Divine service daily in the church of Colewych, in augmentation of his support for ever, etc.—*Westminster*, 10 *July*, 15 *Edw. III.*

An Inquisition made at Lycheffeld, on Saturday next, after the Feast of St. James the Apostle (28 July, 1341): by the oath of Thomas de Pipe, Stephen Pouterel, William de Eyton, Robert Boule, John le Tavernor, John de Crokesden, Ralph Coynterel, Reginald Godman, Henry de Norton, Robert le clerk, Hugh le Zeugge, and Thomas de Huggeston; who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage or prejudice of the King, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid rent is holden of the Bishop of Chester by the service of 12*d.* yearly, for all service. And the Bishop is mesne lord between the King and the aforesaid Geoffrey. And one messuage and one carucate of land with appurtenances at Wolseleye will remain to the Geoffrey beyond the donation and assignment aforesaid, and they are holden of the Bishop, viz., by the service of 6*d.* yearly for all service. And those tenements are worth yearly 40*s.* And they say that the lands and tenements remaining to the aforesaid Geoffrey, beyond the donation and assignment, are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

EDMUND DE MORTON.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Edmund de Morton.—*Westminster*, 26 *October*, 15 *Edw. III.* (1341).

Inquisition made at Wylbrytton, before John Perton, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc., on the 6th November, 15 Edw. III.: by the oath of Adam de Morton, John de Couley, Henry de Rok, William de Cotes, Thomas atte Tounesende, Henry de Wolaston, Adam le Freynce, Robert de Stocton, John le clerk, Robert de Orshlowe, John de Hayward, and William Besse, who say upon their oath that Edmund de Morton held in his demesne as of fee on the day of his death, one messuage, half a virgate of land, a certain wood, and one vivary at Wylbrytton, of the King *in capite*, by the service of 20 shillings by the year, to be rendered at the King's Exchequer by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford, at the Terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael by equal

portions. And that the tenements are worth nothing by the year beyond the service aforesaid, because the tenements were not wont to pay more than 16 shillings by the year, before the same Edmund took the same tenements of the now Lord the King for 4 shillings by the year more of increase. And there are no other profits there. And notwithstanding the said land lies uncultivated and in common, and the buildings are ruinous.

They say also that the same Edmund de Morton held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, one messuage and half a virgate of land with appurtenances in Wodecote of Master Henry de Percy, by the service of 40 pence by the year, to be rendered at the Feast of St. Michael for all service. And the messuage is worth 12 pence. And the half virgate of land is worth 40 pence and no more, because the land is poor and sandy. They say also that John de Morton, son and heir of the aforesaid Edmund, is the next heir of the same Edmund, and he was of the age of 26 years at the Feast of Nativity of St. John the Baptist last past (June 24).

In witness, etc.

RALPH LE BOTILER.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Ralph le Botiler of Northbury.—*Eltham*, 26 *March*, 16 *Edw. III.* (1342).

Inquisition made before the King's Escheator, Thomas de Swynnerton, at Northbury on the 9th April, 16 Edw. III.: by the oath of Roger de Levynton, John de Coueleye, Thomas de Coten, Richard de Holyes, Adam le Frenshe, John Moris, Henry de Wilaston, Hugh de Chippenoll, Robert le Warde, John de Holneye, Thomas le Freemen, and Richard de Aston. Who say upon their oath that Ralph le Botiller of Northbury, deceased, did not hold any lands or tenements of the Lord the King *in capite*, on the day of his death, in the County of Stafford. But he held the manor of Northbury,—conjointly with Haweysia his wife, by the gift and enfeoffment of Henry le Notte of Solihull, and by a fine thereof levied in the Court of the Lord the King,—of Joan Mortimer, Countess of March, as of the Barony of Staunton Laci, by the service of the third part of a knight's fee. In which same manor there is a certain chief messuage worth 2*s.* And a certain dovecote worth 12*d.* And a certain orchard

with a certain curtilage worth 2*s*. And one carucate of land worth 26*s*. 8*d*. and no more, because the third part lies fallow every year and in common. And a certain plot of meadow worth 2*s*. And a certain park, the underwood of which is worth 2*s*. And the pasture is worth 2*s*. And a certain fishpond worth 3*s*. 4*d*. And a certain water-mill worth 10*s*. And of rent of assize of the free tenants and the tenants for term of life, by the year, 100*s*., at the terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael, by equal portions. The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 2*s*. And the same Ralph did not hold any other lands or tenements on the day of his death in the said County of Stafford. They say also that Ralph, son of John le Botiler, deceased, is the next heir of the aforesaid Ralph le Botiler, deceased, and he was of the age of fourteen years and upwards at the Feast of St. Boniface last past (June 5).

In witness, etc.

Mandate directed to Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, commanding him to receive from Hawisia, who was the wife of Ralph le Botiler of Northbury, deceased, who held of the King *in capite* an oath that she will not marry without the King's licence, and having received such oath, to cause to be assigned to her the reasonable dower belonging to her, as well of all the lands and tenements, as of the advowsons of churches, which were of the same Ralph, her late husband, in the same Sheriff's bailiwick on the day of his death, and which, by reason of the death of the same Ralph, were taken into the King's hands—according to the Extent thereof made by the same Sheriff or by another Extent if it shall be necessary to have one made anew—the same assignment to be made in the presence of Guy de Brian, to whom the King has committed the wardship of two parts of the lands and tenements aforesaid, until the lawful age of the heir of the aforesaid Ralph, and who is to be summoned by the same Sheriff to appear personally or by his attorney.—*Kenyngton*, 28 *November*, 16 *Edw. III.*

Assignment of the dower of Hawisia, who was the wife of Ralph le Botiler, deceased, of the Manor of Pulrebache in the County of Salop, which was of the aforesaid Ralph, late her

husband, made there by Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc., on the 20th December, 16 Edw. III., and also in the presence of Jordan de Peulesdon, Hugh le Codyngton, Robert de Walyngbourne, Thomas de Smethecote, John Cadigan, Richard Waryng, and other trustworthy men of the view of the aforesaid Manor then there present, etc.

[Here follows the Assignment of various lands, etc., in the County of Salop.]

We have assigned likewise to the same Hawisia, for her part of the advowsons of churches, prebends, and chapels, which were of the gift of the aforesaid Ralph, her late husband, viz., the advowson of the Chapel of Pulrebache, and also of two prebends in the Collegiate Church of Tamworth in the said County of Stafford; one of which Richard de Wotton holds, and it is called the Prebend of Bolnhull. And the other Robert de Freford holds, and it is called the Prebend of Syrescote. And we caused Guy de Brian to be warned by Richard le Chyld, bailiff of the King at the aforesaid Manor of Pulrebache, that he might be present, on the aforesaid day, at the assignment of the said dower; on which day the aforesaid John Gogh, clerk and attorney of the aforesaid Guy, was personally present to witness all the premises, and was satisfied on behalf of the aforesaid Guy with the making of the assignment.

ABBOT OF BURTON-ON-TRENT.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Roger del Pek of Burton-upon-Trent, that he may give and assign two messuages in Burton-upon-Trent; to Roger de Neubolt, that he may give and assign one messuage in the same vill; and to Nicholas de Fyndern, that he may give and assign one shop in the same vill to the Abbot and Convent of Burton-on-Trent; in part satisfaction of lands and tenements to the value of ten marks by the year, which the King did by his Letters Patent grant that the same Abbot and Convent might acquire as well in their own proper fee as in that of a stranger (lands and tenements and rents which are holden of the King *in capite* excepted).—*Westminster*, 12 *April*, 16 *Edw. III.* (1342).

Inquisition made at Burton-upon-Trent before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 8th May, 16 Edw. III.: by the oath of Richard le Catour, John of Oxford, John de Osmundeston, Geoffrey de Kynkeston, Thomas de Ryppeleye, Henry le . . . , Thomas S . . . , Stephen de Stanton, John de Somereshal, William le Taillour, John Payn, and Roger le . . . Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King, etc. And they say that all the abovesaid tenements are holden of the aforesaid Abbot of Burton-upon-Trent, by the service of 4 shillings by the year, for all services. And they say that the said tenements are worth by the year, beyond the rent aforesaid, in all things . . . and the true value of the same 6*s.* 8*d.* And that the aforesaid Abbot is the mesne lord between the King and the aforesaid Roger, Roger, and Nicholas, of the messuages and shop aforesaid. And there remain to Roger del Peek, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid; one messuage and forty acres of land with appurtenances in Burton, and they are holden of the aforesaid Abbot by the service of six shillings by the year. And the said tenements are worth by the year 13*s.* 4*d.* And there remain to Roger de Neubold, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, one messuage and eighteen acres of land with appurtenances in the said vill of Burton, and they are holden of the Abbot by the service of two shillings by the year, and they are worth 6*s.* 8*d.*, and there remain to Nicholas de Fyndern, beyond the gift and assignment, one messuage and twenty acres of land, in the same vill of Burton, and they are holden of the said Abbot by the service of three shillings by the year. And the tenements remaining to the same Roger, Roger, and Nicholas beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

KINVER—ASSART.

Mandate directed to Bartholomew de Burghersh, Warden of the King's Forest on this side Trent, or to his Lieutenant in the Forest of Kynefare. Commanding him to inquire diligently by the oath, as well of foresters and verderers of the Forest

aforesaid, as of other good and lawful men of these parts, if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King, etc., if the King grants to certain men for term of life, or years, or in fee, one hundred acres of waste of the King's soil in the Forest aforesaid, for a certain farm to be rendered to the King therefor. Also that they may assart the said hundred acres and may hold the same, when assarted and brought into a state of civilization according to the form of a grant to be made to them thereof by the King.—*Westminster*, 12 *May*, 16 *Edw. III.* (1342).

Inquisition taken at Kynfare before Hildrebrand de London, Knight, and John de Makelesfeld, clerk, Lieutenants of Master Bartholomew de Burghersh, Warden of the Forest of the Lord the King on this side Trent, on Tuesday next after the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula (6 Aug., 1342): by the oath of Philip de Lutteleye, Lieutenant of Master Hugh Tirel, Warden of the Forest aforesaid, and by Thomas de Berewes, Gilbert Skot, and William de Vise, walking Foresters, and by William de Perton, Verderer; and by the said Philip de Lutteleye, Richard de Evenefeld, Richard de Everdon, John le Clerk of Bobynton, William de Horewode, Thomas de la . . . uwe, Philip de Evenefeld, Thomas de la Lee, Regarders, and John atte Horewode, John de Hull, of Bobynton, Philip Nichols, and John atte Mershe, Regarders, chosen by the day; and by Philip de Bokkenhull, John Holyman, William le Erle, John de la Hull, William Aleyn, Richard le Smyth, John le Eyr, Richard le Erle, Hugh Pirot, Nicholas Bolle, John de Newnham, William Clare, and Adam atte Lone, twelve good and lawful men within the Forest aforesaid, joined with the same as Jurors. Who, upon their oath charged, whether or not it be to the damage or prejudice of the King, etc.; and if it be to the damage or injury of the Forest aforesaid, or of any person, then what damage and what injury, and to whom and how, and in what manner, and how far the same waste is distant from the cover of the same Forest, and if the deer of the King repair frequently thither or not. All which Jurors aforesaid say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor the prejudice of the King, etc., in the places underwritten, viz., at Le Oldeford near Stapenhull 34 acres of waste, each acre worth by the year 2*d.* and for entry 2*s.* And between the King's demesne Haye of Asshewode and

the field of Ordesleye 10 *ac.*, each acre 2*d.* And between le Golet and Stapenhilleshuyme and Asshefordslade near the water of Stour, 5 acres, 4*d.*, and for entry 4*s.* Between le Deerforde and Godericheleye, 3, each acre 4*d.* and for entry 4*s.* At Shakelesford on either side of the Spitelbrook, 3, each acre 3*d.*, and for entry 3*s.* 4*d.* At Stanclif, 2, each acre 3*d.*, and for entry 3*s.* At Swynleye, 1, acre 2*d.*, and for entry 2*s.* At Swyndonethornes, 6, each acre 2*d.*, and for entry 2*s.* At le Fisshepool, 2, each acre 4*d.*, and for entry 4*s.* At Stourtongate, 6, each acre 2*d.*, and for entry 2*s.* At Prestwodesleasous, 10, each acre 2*d.*, and for entry 2*s.* At le Walles, 10, each acre 2*d.*, and for entry 2*s.* At le Okholt, 3, each acre 2*d.*, and for entry 2*s.* At le Bury, 2, each acre 2*d.*, and for entry 2*s.* At Bothestonesfeld, 3, each acre 2*d.*, and for entry 2*s.* And they say that certain plots of the said plots of waste lie within the demesne hayes of the Lord the King in the said Forest, and certain of the same plots of waste lie contiguous to the cover of the same Forest. And that the deer of the King repair frequently to the same plots.

In witness, etc.

BENTLEY.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* . . . . . .

. . . . . .—*Westminster*, 6 *July* (1342).

Inquisition made at Waleshale, before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Stafford, etc., on the 24th July, 16 Edw. III.: by the oath of William de la Heth, Walter Diryda, Henry de Derlaston, Richard Petyt, John de Grete, Henry le Coupere, Walter de la Heth, Nicholas Gamel, John de Heth, Thomas Goteheye, William atte Hurst, and William Mittes. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King nor of others, if the King grants to William, son of Ralph Petyt of Waleshale, that he may have back again and hold to himself and his heirs, of the King and his heirs, by the services therefore due and accustomed for ever, one messuage, twenty acres of land, one acre of meadow, and two acres of moor with appurtenances in

Benteleye, which the same Ralph acquired in fee, without obtaining the King's licence for the same, of John de Benteleye, who held the same of the King *in capite* and which, by reason of that trespass, were taken into the King's hands by the said Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the county aforesaid. And they say that the messuage, land, meadow, and moor are holden of the King *in capite*, as parcel of the Manor of Benteleye, which same Manor is holden of the King by Grand Serjeanty, viz., of Keeping the King's Haye of Benteleye. And they say that the aforesaid messuage is worth by the year 6*d.*, and the twenty acres of land are worth by the year 3*s.* 4*d.* and no more, because the land is poor and stony, and the third part lies fallow every year and in common. And the said acre of meadow is worth by the year 6*d.* and no more, because it is rushy. And the said two acres of moor are worth by the year 8*d.*

In witness, etc.

ABBOT OF CROXDEN.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Robert de Combrugge that he may give and assign to the Abbot and Convent of Crokesden six acres of land and seven acres of meadow in Combrugge and Seggeshale: To have and to hold to the same Abbot and Convent and their successors for ever.—*Tower of London*, 10 *August*, 16 *Edw. III.* (1342).

Inquisition made at Alveton, before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 20 September, 16 Edw. III.: by the oath of Henry atte Brugge, Henry del Delf, Richard de la Shawe, Simon de Caldon, Robert de Brodehed, Thomas de Wotton, William le Parker, Richard le Heyr, Hugh Jafres (Jeffries), Richard de Stone, Richard le Parker and Lawrence de Stone. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King, etc. And they say that the four acres of land and five acres of meadow in Combrugge are holden of the Abbot of Roucester, by the service of 12*d.* by the year, for all service. And that two acres of land and two acres of meadow with appurtenances in

Seggeshale are holden of John le Marchal by the service of one penny by the year, for all service. And they say that the aforesaid Abbot of Roucester and the Earl of Chester are the mesne lords between the King and the aforesaid Robert, of the aforesaid four acres of land and five acres of meadow in Combrugge. And that John le Marchal, John de Seint Piere, Walter de Montgomeri, and Henry, Earl of Lancaster, are the mesne lords between the King and the aforesaid Robert, of the aforesaid two acres of land and two acres of meadow in Seggeshale. And they say that the aforesaid six acres of land are worth, by the year in all issues, according to the true value of the same, 3*s.* And that the seven acres of meadow are worth by the year in all issues 7*s.* They say also that there remain to the aforesaid Robert, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, one messuage and one carucate of land with appurtenances in Combrugge, and they are holden of the said Abbot of Roucester by the service of 18*d.* by the year, for all service. And the said tenements are worth by the year 40*s.* And they say that the aforesaid lands and tenements remaining to the same Robert, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

THOMAS LE PARKER.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Thomas le Parker.—*Kenyngton*, 8 *November*, 16 *Edw. III.* (1342).

Inquisition made before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Wyrley, on the 20 January, 16 Edw. III. (1343): by the oath of John atte Brok, John del Dych, William Robyns, William Nicholas, William Thurstan, Richard del Oldefallyngh, John Herberd, Reginald Edwyne, William son of Hugh, Adam del Heth, William son of Adam, and Thomas de Sharpshawe. Who say upon their oath that Thomas le Parker, deceased, held, in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, at Hatherdon, six acres of land of the assarts of the King, belonging to the King's Haye of Gaueleye, of the King *in capite*, by the service of 2*s.* by the year, to be rendered at the King's Exchequer, by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford. And that the six acres of land are worth

nothing beyond the rent aforesaid. They say also that John le Parker, nephew and kinsman of the aforesaid Thomas, is the next heir of the same Thomas, and he was of the age of thirty years and upwards at the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle last past (Nov. 30, 1342). And they say that the aforesaid Thomas held no other lands or tenements, in his demesne as of fee on the day of his death, in the said County of Stafford.

In witness, etc.

BENTLEY.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Robert Hillary, parson of the Church of Sutton in Colefeld, that he may retain to himself and his heirs, of the King and his heirs, by the services therefor due and accustomed for ever, twenty acres of land, fifteen acres of pasture, and a rent of 13*s.* 4*d.* with appurtenances, in Benteleye, which are holden of the King *in capite*, which were acquired in fee of John de Benteleye. And five acres of wood, and five acres of pasture, with appurtenances in the same vill, which were acquired in fee of Richard Hillary, who held the same of the aforesaid John, who held them of the King *in capite*. Also 10 acres of pasture and 10 acres of wood with appurtenances in Great Wyrleye, which are also holden of the King *in capite*, and which were acquired in fee of John de Loges—the King's licence not having been obtained for the said acquisitions.—*Westminster*, 29 *November*, 16 *Edw. III.* (1342).

Inquisition made at Waleshal, before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator on the 24th December, 16 Edw. III.: by the oath of William atte Heth, William Marchys, Robert Colesone, William Huwet, John le Cokes, Richard Daukynes, Roger del Pek, William Sweyn, Richard le Kyng, William Petyt, and Henry de Rushale, and Adam le Taillour. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid twenty acres of land, fifteen acres of pasture, and the rent of 13*s.* 4*d.*, and the five acres of wood and five acres of pasture in Benteleye, are holden of the

King *in capite*, as parcel of the Manor of Benteleye, which same Manor is holden of the King by Grand Serjeanty, viz., by the service of keeping the King's Haye at Benteleye. And they say that the ten acres of pasture and ten acres of wood in Great Wyrleye are holden of the King *in capite* as parcel of the Manor of Great Wyrleye, which same Manor is holden of the King by petty serjeanty, viz., by the service of giving one barbed arrow to the King so often as the Lord the King shall come into the neighbourhood of his Haye at Chistlyn to hunt there. And they say that the twenty acres of land with appurtenances in Benteleye are worth 5*s.* And the 15 acres of pasture, in the same vill, are worth 2*s.* 6*d.* And the five acres of wood and five acres of pasture in the same vill are worth 2*s.* 2*d.* And that the ten acres of pasture and ten acres of wood in Great Wyrleye are worth 3*s.* 4*d.*

In witness, etc.

GREAT WIRLEY.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants to John de Loges, that he may give and grant to John, son of John de Loges and Isabella his wife, his Manor of Great Wyrleye, which is holden of the King *in capite*, to hold to the same John, son of John and Isabella, and the heirs of the bodies of the same John, son of John and Isabella begotten, of the King and his heirs, by the services therefor due and accustomed for ever. Also that if the same John, son of John and Isabella, shall die without any heir of their body begotten, the Manor aforesaid with appurtenances shall entirely revert to the aforesaid John de Loges and his heirs, to be holden of the King and his heirs by the services aforesaid.—*Kenyngton*, 20 *November*, 16 *Edw. III.* (1342).

Inquisition made at Great Wyrleye, before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 24th of January (1343): by the oath of John atte Broke, John del Dych, William Robyns, William Nicholas, William Thurstan, Richard del Oldefallyng, John Herberd, Reginald Edwyne, William son of Hugh, Adam del Heth, William son of Adam, and Thomas de Sharpshawe, who say upon their oath that it

is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King nor of others, if the King grants, etc. And they say that the aforesaid Manor is holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of giving to the King one barbed arrow so often as the same Lord the King shall come into those parts, viz., at le Brokholes, to hunt in his Haye of Chistlyn. And they say that there is there no Manor nor chief messuage, dovecote, orchard, land, meadow, wood, pasture, mills, nor anything of the kind. But there is there of Rent of assize of the free and customary tenants by the year 66*s.* 8*d.* at the four terms of the year, by equal portions. The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 3*s.* 4*d.* There are there no other profits. And there remains to John de Loges, beyond the Manor of Great Wyrleye, the Manor of Chesterton, in the County of Warwick, and it is holden of the King *in capite*, by Grand Serjeanty, and the said Manor of Chesterton is worth by the year £10.

In witness, etc.

WALTER LE BEYSIN—Settlement.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the Lord the King or of others if the King grants to Walter le Beysin, Chivaler, that he may enfeoff Henry de Mortimer the elder, and Roger de Chilynton, Chaplain, with two parts of the Manor of Assheley and the advowson of the Church of the same vill, which are holden of the King *in capite* as it is said: To hold to them and their heirs. Also that the same Henry and Roger, having thereof full and peaceable seizin, may be able to give and grant them to the aforesaid Walter: To hold for the term of his life. Also that after the death of the same Walter they shall remain to John, son of the same Walter: To hold to him and the heirs which he shall beget upon the body of Margaret, daughter of Hugh le Mortimer. And if the same John shall die without any heir begotten of the body of the same Margaret by the same John, they shall remain to the right heirs of the aforesaid Walter.—*Kenyngton*, 26 *January*, 17 *Edw. III.* (1343).

Inquisition made at Stone, before Thomas de Swynnerton, Escheator of the Lord the King in the County of Stafford on

28 February, 17 Edw. III.: by the oath of John de Hodenet, Thomas de Venables, John de Stalbrok, John de Styvynton, Stephen Bithewater, William de la Hull, William le Chapman, Richard de Bolde, John Uwynet, John de Stalynton, Robert de Chetewynde, and Roger le Bret, who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King, etc.

And they say that the said two parts, and the advowson aforesaid, are holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee. In which same two parts there is a certain chief messuage worth 12*d.* And two carucates of land in demesne, two parts of which are worth 40*s.*, and the third part of the same is worth nothing because it lies fallow every year and in common, and 4 acres of meadow 4*s.* There is no wood there nor pasture in severalty, no mill nor anything of the kind, but there is there of Rent of Assize of the free and customary tenants by the year 53*s.* 6*d.* at the Terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael by equal portions. The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 3*s.* 4*d.* There are no other profits there. And they say that there remain no lands nor tenements to the aforesaid Walter beyond the aforesaid two parts.

In witness, etc.

RALPH BASSET OF DRAYTON.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Ralph Basset of Drayton.—*Byflet*, 26 *February*, 17 *Edw. III.* (1343).

Inquisition made at Waleshale before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 12th March, 17 Edw. III.: by the oath of William Huwet, Robert Colesone, William Marchys, Richard Petyt, John Marchys, John le Tornour, Walter Dyrida, William Jones, Richard Daukynes, Alexander Sweynes, Elias de Hawardyn, and William de Shareshull, who say upon their oath that Ralph Basset de Drayton, deceased, did not hold any lands or tenements of the King *in capite*, in the said County of Stafford, nor of any other person. But the same Ralph held the Manor of Waleshale for the term of his life, by the gift and grant of William de Herle, Knight, and Thomas de Radeclive, parson of

the Church of Olneye. To hold to the same Ralph for the term of his life with the knights' fees and advowsons of Churches, liberties, demesnes and all other appurtenances to the same Manor belonging, of the King and his heirs, by the services therefore due and accustomed, viz., by King's charter of licence and by a fine levied thereof in the Court of the Lord the King. Also that, after the death of the aforesaid Ralph, the said Manor, together with the fees, advowsons, liberties, demesnes and all other the appurtenances, shall remain to Ralph son of Ralph son Ralph Basset of Drayton, and to Joan daughter of Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, and the heirs of their bodies lawfully begotten: To which same Manor the aforesaid Ralph so held for the term of his life of the Lord the King *in capite*, by the service of £4 by the year, to be rendered at the King's Exchequer by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford. In which same Manor there is a certain chief messuage which is worth nothing by the year, beyond the reprises of the dwellings. There is no dovecote, orchard, curtilage, nor anything of the kind, but there are two carucates of land in demesne, two parts whereof are worth 40*s.*, and the third part thereof is worth nothing, because it lies fallow every year and in common. And four acres of meadow worth 4*s.* And a certain park, to which there is no underwood, because it was entirely cut down before the death of the said Ralph. And there is no pasture of the same on account of the cutting of the said underwood. And there is a certain water-mill worth 13*s.* 4*d.* And of rent of assize of the free and customary tenants by the year, beyond the aforesaid rent of £4 yearly, £6 19*s.* 9½*d.*, at the four terms by equal portions. The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 3*s.* 4*d.* They say also that the aforesaid Ralph Basset de Drayton, deceased, held on the day of his death, aforesaid, the Manor of Patyncham, by the gift and grant of Ralph de Olneye and Robert de Burlyngham, Chaplain. To hold to the same Ralph Basset and the heirs male of his body begotten, of the Chief Lords of that fee, and by a fine levied thereof in the Court of the King. And if it should happen that the same Ralph Basset should die without heir male of his body begotten, that after the decease of the same Ralph Basset the aforesaid Manor of Patyncham should remain to Ralph son of

Ralph son of Ralph Basset de Drayton and the heirs of his body begotten. Which same Manor the aforesaid Ralph Basset so held of John de Sutton, as of the Barony of Duddeleye, by the service of the mediety of one knight's fee. In which same Manor there is a certain chief messuage worth 12*d.* There are there no dovecote, orchard, curtilage, garden, lands, demesnes, nor anything of the kind. But there is a certain plot of meadow worth 4*s.*, and a certain water-mill worth 13*s.* 4*d.* And of rent of assize of the free and customary tenants by the year £7 17*s.* 6½*d.*, at the four terms by equal portions. The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 3*s.* 4*d.*

They say also that the said Ralph did not hold any other lands or tenements in the said County of Stafford on the day of his death. And that the same Ralph died at Drayton Basset on the 22nd February last past. And that Ralph son of Ralph son of the aforesaid Ralph Basset de Drayton is the next heir of the same Ralph, and he was of the age of seven years and upwards at the Feast of St. Martin last past.

They say also that the same Ralph had not any knights' fees in the said County of Stafford; but they say that he had the advowson of the Chapel of Drayton, viz., when the said Chapel is void, the same Ralph and his heirs shall nominate a proper person as clerk to the Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of Tamworth. And the same Dean and Chapter shall present him to the Bishop, and thus the said clerk shall be, by the same Dean and Chapter, instituted into the said Chapel. And the said Chapel is worth 10 marks. And there are at Drayton Basset three perpetual Chaplains, of whom the said Ralph had the nominations, and they ought to belong to his heirs, and they have temporalities wherewith to live upon, and manses separately by themselves in the same vill of Drayton to them and their successors for ever; their names are Robert de Burlyngham, Ralph de Olneye, and Sampson de Ashwill, and the portion of each of them is worth by the year 10 marks.

In witness, etc.

Inquisition made at Drayton, before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator, on the 9th March, 17 Edw. III.: by the oath of Adam Basset, John de Cossely, Thomas de Tunstal, Ralph de Bollenhull, Alan de Coppenhale, William le Tayllour,

Alan le Orpede, John Hendemon, Thomas James, John Drambel, William Otemery, and William de Whitacre, who say upon their oath that Ralph Basset de Drayton, deceased, did not hold any lands or tenements in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, in the said County of Stafford. But he held the Manor of Drayton Basset, except five messuages and one mill in the same Manor, of the gift and grant of Ralph de Olneye and Robert de Burlyngham, Chaplain: To hold to the same Ralph Basset and the heirs male of his body begotten, by a fine levied thereof in the court of the King. And if it should happen that the same Ralph should die without heir male of his body begotten, then the aforesaid Manor should remain to Ralph son of Ralph son of Ralph Basset de Drayton and the heirs of his body begotten. Which same Manor Ralph held of the heir of Ralph Basset de Weldon by the service of one knight's fee. In which same Manor there is a certain chief messuage worth 2*s.* And two carucates of land in demesne, two parts whereof are worth 40*s.*, and the third part lies fallow every year and in common. And there are there 20 acres of meadow worth 20*s.*, and a certain park, the pasture whereof is worth 6*s.* 8*d.*, and there is no underwood of the same. And certain foreign woods, the underwood whereof was cut down before the death of the aforesaid Ralph, and the pasture of the same is common to the whole country, and a certain water-mill which is let to a certain tenant there for term of his life, and the same tenant renders by the year, for the said mill, 13*s.* 4*d.*, at three terms of the said Manor underwritten. And of Rent of assize of the free tenants by the year £6 6*s.* 2½*d.* at the four terms of the year, by equal portions. And of Rent of assize of the customary tenants by the year 102*s.* 3*d.* And of Rent of assize of new land from the wastes there rented by the year at the same terms 68*s.* 9*d.* and of rent of cottagers by the year 20*s.*, and 54 ploughings of the customary tenants there in winter time or Lenten time and fallow, which are extended at 13*s.* 6*d.*, viz., the ploughing by the day 3*d.* and the autumnal works of the aforesaid customary tenants in the autumn time are extended at 26*s.* 8*d.* The pleas and perquisites of the courts there are worth by the year 6*s.* 8*d.* And they say that Ralph son of Ralph son of Ralph Basset de Drayton is the next heir of the same Ralph, and he was of the

age of seven years and upwards at the Feast of St. Martin (Nov. 11) last past.

In witness, etc.

Total, £30 6*s.* 3½*d.*

Mandate directed to Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford. The King wishes to be certified of the true value of the knights' fees and advowsons of churches which were of Ralph Basset de Drayton, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, viz., how much they are worth by the year in all issues. The Sheriff is therefore commanded by the oath of good and lawful men, etc.—*Westminster*, 10 *May*, 17 *Edw. III.* (1343).

Inquisition made at Wolvernehampton on Monday next after the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula in 17 Edw. III.: before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford: by the oath of John de Mollesleye, Richard de Ovyoteshay, William de Saltford, John de Bradeley, John M . . ys, Thomas Lovot, Richard Petyt, John Roberd, Thomas atte Broke, William Boon, William atte Forde, and Thomas atte Hoo, who say upon their oath that Ralph Basset de Drayton, deceased, had on the day of his death the advowson of the chapel of Drayton in the said County of Stafford, viz., when the said chapel shall be void the same Ralph and his heirs shall nominate a proper person as clerk to the Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of Tamworth, and the same Dean and Chapter shall present the same to the Bishop, and so the said Clerk shall be from their presentation instituted by the Bishop in the said Chapel. And the said Chapel is worth by the year in all issues 10 marks. They say also in relation to knights' fees that the said Ralph had not any fees in the said county on the day of his death.

In witness, etc.

WILLIAM LE BOTILLER—Settlement.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants to William le Botiller de Wemme that he may enfeoff Richard de Pebbeworth, Chaplain, and William de Stoke, Chaplain, with the

Manor of Tyrleye with appurtenances in the County of Stafford, and with the Manor of Hynstoke and the third part of the Manor of Wemme with appurtenances in the County of Salop, which are holden of the King *in capite*, as it is said. To have and to hold to them and their heirs, of the King and his heirs, for the services therefore due and accustomed for ever. And also that the same William le Botiller may be able to grant that two parts of the Manor of Wemme with appurtenances, which are likewise holden of the King *in capite*, and which Ela, who was the wife of William le Botiller the elder, holds in dower of the inheritance of the same William le Botiller, and which after the death of the same Ela ought to revert to the aforesaid William le Botiller, shall remain to the aforesaid Richard and William de Stoke after the death of the same Ela. To hold to them and their heirs, of the King and his heirs for the services aforesaid for ever. Also that the same Richard and William de Stoke, having full and peaceable seizin of the aforesaid Manors and third part, and having received the attornment of the aforesaid Ela of the two parts aforesaid, may be able to give and grant them to the aforesaid William le Botiller. To hold to him and the heirs of his body begotten, of the King and his heirs for the services aforesaid for ever, also that if the same William le Botiller shall die without heir of his body begotten, the aforesaid Manors and third part, together with the aforesaid two parts with appurtenances, shall remain to the right heirs of the same William le Botiller. To be holden of the King and his heirs by the services aforesaid for ever.—*Westminster*, 8 *June*, 17 *Edw. III.* (1343).

Inquisition made at Tyrleye before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on 4th July, 17 Edw. III.: by the oath of William de Chaweldon, Robert de Onyleye, William de Chaweldon of Mere, Nicholas de Onyleye, Adam de Okleye, Richard de Wonynton, William de Whytynton, Richard le Clerk, Richard Gamel, William Gamel, Thomas de la Bathe, and Richard de la Mershe, who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the Lord the King, etc. And they say that the aforesaid Manor of Tyrle, in the County of Stafford, and the Manors of Hynstok, Wemme, Lopynton, and Dudynton, in the County of Salop, are holden of the King *in*

capite, by the service of three knights' fees, and which same Manor of Dodynton, John le Strange of Whitchurch has of the gift and grant of William le Butyller, deceased, for ever. And they say that the aforesaid Manors are worth by the year in all issues according to the true value of the same £60, besides the Manor of Dodynton, which is worth by the year in all issues, according to the true value of the same, 100 marks. And they say that there remain no lands nor tenements to the same William le Botyller in the Counties aforesaid beyond the Manors aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

HENRY DE FERRARS OF GROBY.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Henry de Ferrers of Groby.—*Westminster*, 16 *September*, 17 *Edw. III.*

Inquisition made at Stafford before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 18th October, 17 Edw. III., by the oath of William de Careswalle, Roger de Careswalle, Richard de Shardecote, Robert de Lynhull, Adam Bygot, John Buthume, John Bonde, Richard Kyry, William de Engelton, Adam Henrys, John de Gnoushale, John atte Walle, who say upon their oath that Henry de Ferrers held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the Manor of Teemhale, with appurtenances in the County aforesaid, of the King *in capite*, by homage and fealty, and without doing any other service therefor. In which same Manor there are no buildings, lands, pastures, woods, meadows, or mills, nor such like. But there is there of Rent of assize of the customary tenants by the year £4 18*s.* 0*d.* at the Terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, St. John the Baptist, St. Michael and St. Andrew by equal portions. They say also that the pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 40*s.* They say also that the aforesaid Henry de Ferrers held the hamlet of Wotton (under Weaver), with appurtenances, on the day of his death for term of his life, of the inheritance of Isabella his wife,[1] which same Isabella is still living, parcel of

[1] Daughter and co-heiress of Theobald de Verdon.

the Manor of Alveton, which same Manor is holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of one knight's fee. In which same hamlet there are no buildings, lands, demesnes, meadows nor pastures. But there is there a certain park, the pasture of which is worth 6*s.* 8*d.* And the underwood of the same is worth 12*d.* And of Rent of Assize of the customary tenants by the year £10 at the Terms abovesaid. They say also that the pleas and perquisites of the Court there are worth by the year 20*s.* They say also that William de Ferrers, son and heir of the aforesaid Henry de Ferrers, is the next heir of the aforesaid Henry, and he was of the age of 13 years at the Feast of St. Michael last past.

In witness, etc.

TRENTHAM PRIORY.

Writ to the Escheator of the County of Stafford, reciting that whereas the Priory of Trentham is of the foundation of the King's Progenitors, formerly kings of England, as fully appears by the charters of the King's Progenitors and by other evidences exhibited in the King's Chancery, and among others the Letters Patent of the King's Progenitors, given them licence to elect; and, after having obtained the Royal Assent, to make restitution of the Temporalities of the aforesaid Priory; and it also appears to the King, by the inspection of certain Letters, that the Lord Edward, formerly King of England, the King's grandfather—an election having been made in the conventual church of Trentham of brother Richard de Lavyndon, at that time Sub-Prior of the same church, as Prior of that place—did give his Royal Assent thereto. And now the King has been given to understand that in times past, during the voidance of the same Priory, much waste and destruction were committed in the woods belonging to the same Priory, and in carrying away and taking possession of the goods and articles belonging to the same by the men of those parts. And now that the Prior of the same House is sick unto death, as it is reported, many persons have entered upon the same Priory and its manors, granges, woods, and other places thereunto belonging, and have collected rents, cut down trees, and taken possession of, and

occupied, carried away and consumed the goods and chattels of the same House. Now the King, for the safety and salvation of the aforesaid House and the things and goods pertaining to the same, wishing to provide a remedy, as he is bounden to do for all Houses which are of his advowson, in order that the same Priory shall not be prejudiced, nor its alms, chantries, and other works of piety, established for the salvation of the souls of the King's progenitors, diminished. He commands the said Escheator (if the said Prior be dead) to take into his hands the aforesaid Priory, together with the lands and possessions belonging to the same, and likewise all goods and chattels found in the same, and keep them safely against all intruders, occupiers, and destroyers; and not to permit the canons and servants of the same House to enter into the possessions or things belonging to the same House, to do damage or hurt therein, during the voidance of the same House, etc.—*Westminster*, 8 *October*, 17 *Edw. III.*

An Inquisition made before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Trentham on the 16th October, 17 Edw. III., viz., of the names of those who have invaded the Priory of Trentham, its manors, granges, or other places belonging to the same Priory, and have occupied the goods of the same Priory, or have presumed to inflict any injury or damage on the same: by the oath of John Godfrey, Jordan de Asch, Thomas Wylet, John Bertrem, Richard de Stoke, Thomas le Bakere, William Le Preestessone, Alan Le Gardener, Thomas Wyther, Robert Le Chaloner, Robert Le Muleward and Roger Le Smythessone: who say upon their oath that Stephen de Ireton, Constable of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Adam de Fulford, Ralph Lycoris, and William Loveton entered upon the Priory of Trentham, in the name of the Earl of Lancaster, in disseizin of the Lord the King, and against the will of the Canons there, and in defiance of Thomas de Swynnerton, the Escheator, then there present, to the prejudice of the Lord the King, but they did not take or carry away any of the goods belonging to the same Priory, except only some victuals.

In witness, etc.

FRIARY OF STAFFORD FOREBRIDGE.

An Inquisition made at Stafford before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 17th October, 17 Edw. III.: by the oath of Robert de Lynhul, John de Buthume, Adam Bygot, Thomas Bragon, Richard Bragon, Clement Piscator, Richard de Oten Edisch (Onne), John Brydon, Nicholas de Leye, John de Dodynton, Adam Le Cartwutte, and Hugh Le Frere: who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage or prejudice of the King, nor of any other person, if the King grant to his beloved and faithful Ralph, Baron of Stafford, that he, for the well-being of himself and Margaret his wife, and of Humphrey de Hastang, Archdeacon of Coventry, and for their souls when they have departed from this life, and for the souls of all the faithful deceased, may found a certain house of Friars of the Order of St. Augustine Heremites in Forbrugge near Stafford, and that they may construct a house for their habitation, and a competent church and other houses on five acres of land with appurtenances in the same vill, which are holden of the King *in capite*. And to the same Baron and Archdeacon that they may give and assign to the same Friars a certain fountain in their land there, which is likewise as it is said holden of the King *in capite*, to make a subterranean water-duct from the said fountain to their own house, in pure and perpetual alms, to hold to them and their successors. And the land is parcel of the Barony of Stafford, which said Barony is holden of the King by the service of three knights' fees. And the aforesaid land is worth yearly 20*d.*; and the fountain is worth yearly, with the subterranean aqueduct, 4*d.* in all issues, according to the true value of the same.

In witness, etc.

BALDWIN DE FREVILL.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum*, upon the death of Baldwin de Frevill.—*Westminster*, 4 *November* (1343).

Inquisition made at Tamworth, before Thomas de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator, on 1st December, 17 Edw. III.; by the oath of John de Compeyate, Robert de Coton, William le

Ropere, Ralph le Burgeyse, Nicholas le Taillour, Ralph le Cok, Walter de Bolenhull, Richard Don, John Mathew, Henry March, Thomas de Deystere, and Richard Gos. Who say upon their oath that Baldewyn de Fryvyll, deceased, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, one acre of land in Wygynton in the County of Stafford, which same acre is parcel of the castle of Tamworthe, which same castle stands in the County of Warwick ; and the said castle is holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of one knight's fee, and the said acre of land is worth by the year in all issues 4*d.* They say also that he held one water-mill in Drayton near Tamworthe in the County of Stafford of the heir of Ralph Basset, who is within age, and in the wardship of the King, by the service of 10*s.* by the year, and the said mill is worth by the year in all issues 3*s.* 4*d.*, beyond the service aforesaid. They say also that he was seized of a free rent of 5*s.* 1*d.* by the year in Tamworthe and it is holden of the Earl of Pembroke by the service of 2*s.* 6*d.* by the year. And there are no pleas and perquisites of the Courts there. They say also that the same Baldewyn died in foreign parts, viz., on Friday next after the Feast of St. Jeronimus last past. And they say that Baldewyn de Fryvyll, son and heir of the aforesaid Baldewyn, deceased, is the next heir and he was of the age of 26 years at the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary last past.

In witness, etc.

THOMAS DE FURNIVAL—Settlement.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants to Thomas de Furnivall that he may give and grant to William de Stotheby, parson of the Church of Wylughby, and John de Neuton, Chaplain, the Castle and Manor of Alveton with appurtenances, which are holden of the King *in capite*, also that the same William and John, having thereof full and peaceable seizin, may be able to give and grant the aforesaid Castle and Manor to the aforesaid Thomas and Margaret and the heirs of the bodies of the same Thomas and Margaret begotten.—*Westminster*, 28 *January*, 18 *Edw. III.* (1344).

Inquisition made at Alveton before John de Aston, Escheator

of the King in the County of Stafford, on the 16th April, 18 Edw. III.: by the oath of William de Tene, Richard de la Schawe of Alveton, Roger de Lokwode, Richard Smith of Farleye, Richard del Whitehurst, Richard de Berdemor, William del Lee, William le Parkere of Rommesovere, Robert de Ravenesdale, Adam le Parkere of Caldon, Thomas de Wotton, and John Osbern of Roucestre, who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor the prejudice of the King, etc. And they say that the aforesaid Castle and Manor, with appurtenances, are holden of the King *in capite*, viz., by the service of one knight's fee. And they say that the aforesaid Castle and Manor, with appurtenances, are worth by the year in all issues according to the true value of the same £20.

In witness, etc.

ALREWAS.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage etc., if the King grants to William de Horsebrok that he may retain and hold to himself and his heirs, of the King and his heirs, for the services therefor due and accustomed for ever, three acres of land with appurtenances in Alrewas, which he acquired in fee of John son of John de Swynnerton, who acquired the same in fee of Philip de Montgomery, who acquired the same in fee of Robert de Somervill, who held the same *in capite* of Edward, late King of England; and one messuage in the same vill, which he acquired in fee of the aforesaid John, who held the same *in capite* of the King's father; and seven acres of land in the same vill, which he acquired in fee of Wakelin de Assemeresbrok, who acquired the same in fee of Master Luke de Ely and Richard de Horewde, who acquired the same in fee of John de la Bourne, who acquired the same in fee of the said Robert de Somervill, who held the same *in capite* of the King's father; and ninety acres of land in the same vill which he acquired in fee of the aforesaid Philip de Somervill, who held the same *in capite* of the King; neither the licence of the King's father nor the licence of the King having been obtained by them to the same acquisitions in fee.—*Westminster*, 16 *October*, 18 *Edw. III.* (1344).

Inquisition made before John de Aston, the King's Escheator

in the County of Stafford, by the oath of William in le Holt of Hulton, Roger de Ellesmere, John Shot, John Kyng, William Gibbe, John Huggins, John Curson, William de Engelton, Richard Don, Richard of the Butheme, Thomas de Bradeleye, and Thomas in the Stones, at Pencrich on 29th October, 18 Edw. III., who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid messuage and land are holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of eleven pence by the year, to be rendered at the King's Exchequer yearly at the Feast of St. Michael, by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford. And they say that the aforesaid messuage and land are worth by the year in all issues 10*s.* and no more, because the land is sandy and stony, and the third part of the same lies fallow every year.

In witness, etc.

WALTER BEYSIN.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Walter Beysyn.—*Orsete*, 20 *November*, 18 *Edw. III.* (1344).

Inquisition made at Stafford, before John de Aston, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 20th January, 18 Edw. III.: by the oath of Robert de Onyley, Ralph Burgilon, Richard de Bromley, William de Chauldon, William de Bromschulf, John atte Brok, Henry atte Brugg, John de Bikeford, John le Couleye, Richard Dun, Richard of the Bothome, and John de Bothome. Who say upon their oath that Walter de Beysin held nothing in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite* in the County aforesaid. But they say that the same Walter held two parts of the Manor of Assheleye with appurtenances, together with the advowson of the Church of the same vill, for term of his life, by the grant of Henry de Mortimer the elder, and Roger de Chillington, Chaplain, of the King and his heirs for the services due, and accustomed, by the King's licence, and by a fine levied thereof in the Court of the same King. Also that after the death of the same Walter they should remain to John, son of Walter de Beysin, and Margaret his wife, and the heirs which the same

John should beget on the body of the aforesaid Margaret. And they say that they are holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of one knight's fee.

In which same two parts there is a certain chief messuage worth 12*d.* And two carucates of land worth £4. And four acres of meadow worth 6*s.* There is there no wood. But there is there a certain several pasture worth 2*s.* There is there no mill, but there is of Rent of Assize of the free tenants by the year £4, viz., at the terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael. The pleas and perquisites of the Courts are worth by the year 2*s.* They say that the same Walter held certain tenements at Eton in the same County, by the grant of Henry de Mortimer the elder, and Roger de Chillington, Chaplain, for the term of his life. Also that after the death of the aforesaid Walter the tenements should remain to John, son of Walter de Beysin, and Margaret his wife, and the heirs of the bodies of the same John and Margaret begotten. And if the aforesaid John and Margaret should die without heir of their bodies begotten, then the aforesaid tenements should remain to the right heirs of the aforesaid Walter for ever. And they say that there are no demesnes, woods, pastures, nor meadows. But there is there a certain Fulling mill worth 8*s.* and no more, because it is in a dilapidated condition. And of Rent of Assize of the free tenants 40*s.* by the year, viz., at the terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael. The pleas and perquisites are worth by the year 2*s.* And the aforesaid tenements are holden of William Chaumpioun by the service of 5*s.* by the year for all service.

They say also that the same Walter de Beysin held a certain yearly rent of 40*s.*, which is paid at the aforesaid two terms at Longenor in the same County, by the grant of the aforesaid Henry de Mortimer and Roger de Chillington, Chaplain. Also that after the death of the aforesaid Walter the aforesaid rent should remain as before. And they say that the rent of 40*s.* is holden of the Barony of Stafford by the service of 3*s.* by the year. And they say that the aforesaid Walter de Beysin died on Monday next after the Feast of St. Martin last past. And that John de Beysin, son of the aforesaid Walter de Beysin, is the next heir of the same Walter, and he was of the age of

18 years at the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula last past (1 August, 1344).

In witness, etc.

ABBEY OF CROXDEN.

Writ addressed to John de Aston, the King's Escheator in the Counties of Salop and Stafford, etc., to inquire whether or not it will be to the damage of the King or any other person if the King do grant to Richard de la Shawe of Alveton that he may give and assign to the Abbot and Convent of Crokesdon, one messuage and sixty acres of land with appurtenances in Alveton.—*Westminster*, 8 *January*, 19 *Edw. III.* (1345).[1]

An Inquisition made before John de Aston, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Alveton, on the 17th February, 19 Edw. III.: by the oath of Robert de Combrugge, John de Prestwode, Henry atte Brugge, Simon de Caldon, Robert de Bradenhed, William de Tene, William le Parker, Hugh Jaffres, Richard le Heyr of Strongeshull, Robert Batail, Richard del Stone, of Alveton, and Thomas de Lughteburghe, who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the King, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid messuage and lands are holden of Thomas de Fournivall, Lord of Alveton, by the service of 9*s.* yearly, and two appearances at the two great Courts of the said Thomas at Alveton. And they say that the aforesaid messuage and land are worth 10*s.* yearly beyond the service aforesaid. And Thomas de Fournivall is mesne lord between the King and the said Robert. And one messuage and thirty-six acres of land, in the vill of Denston, will remain to Richard, beyond the donation, holden of Nicholas de Denston by the service of 6*d.* yearly. And the aforesaid messuage and thirty-six acres of land remaining with Richard are worth yearly in all issues 13*s.* 4*d.*, beyond the said service. And they say that the lands and tenements remaining to the same Richard, beyond the said donation and assignment, are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

Indorsed.—Let it be done for a Fine of Forty shillings.

[1] ? 1345 or 1346.

STAFFORD, KINGSPOOL.

Mandate directed to John de Aston, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, reciting that Simon de Ruggeleye has petitioned the King to the effect, that whereas he holds a certain fishpond of the King's called the Kyngespol, near Stafford, for a term of ten years, by the King's grant: rendering therefor two marks yearly to the King, he prays the King to grant that he may have and hold the said fishpond to himself and his heirs, of the King and his heirs: rendering therefor yearly to the King at his Exchequer, by the hands of the Sheriff of the County, the said two marks at the Terms of St. Michael and Easter by equal portions. Also that he may be permitted to raise the pool of the same fishpond and construct a mill there, and hold the same to him and his heirs aforesaid for ever. The King wishing to be fully certified concerning the premises, commands the Sheriff diligently to inquire by the oaths of good and lawful men, etc.—*Westminster*, 10 *May*, 19 *Edw. III.* (1345).

Inquisition taken at Stafford, on the 20th May, 19 Edw. III., before John de Aston, the King's Escheator: by the oath of Henry Mauveysyn, Richard del Bolde, Richard de Neuton, Thomas de Wolseyleye, Robert son of John, Henry de Morhay, John de Bixland, Richard Aylbright, John de Rolleston, Thomas le Prynce, William de Brocton, and William de Dodyngton. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the King, etc. But it will greatly increase the safety and profit of the defence of the town of the Lord the King of Stafford, if the said pool be repaired and raised. And they say that the said fishpond is worth in all issues by the year, according to the true value of the same, two marks.

In witness, etc.

WILLIAM CORBET.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of William Corbet, Chivaler.—*Westminster*, 20 *October*, 19 *Edw. III.* (1345).

Inquisition made at Kyngesbromley before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 11th

November, 19 Edw. III.: by the oath of Henry de . . . de . . . wyk, Richard . . . , John le . . . , Thomas . . . , John Scot, Richard . . . , John P . . . , Thomas Peck, John le . . . , William de Westwode and Thomas le Taillour. Who say upon their oath that William Corbet, Chivaler, deceased, held no lands of the King *in capite*. But that he held the Manor of Kyngesbromley for term of his life only, by the demise of Roger Corbet . . . licence of the Lord the King. Also that after the death of the aforesaid William the aforesaid Manor to the aforesaid Roger. . . . They say also that the aforesaid Manor is holden of the King *in capite* . . . pounds to be rendered at the Exchequer by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford . . . pasture nor rent. But there is there a certain meadow . . . in common. And there is there of Rent of Assize of the free tenants by. . . . The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 3*s.* 4*d.* . . . They say also that John Corbet, Chivaler, . . . of the age of 34 years at the Feast of St. Michael. . . .

JOHN DE HANDLO.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Handlo.—*Windsor*, 8 *August*, 20 *Edw. III.* (1346).

Inquisition made at Stafford before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator, on Monday next after the Feast of St. Matthew Apostle (25th September, 1346): by the oath of Thomas de la Lowe, William del Horwode, John del Horwode, Richard de Donnesleye, Gilbert Scot, Philip de Enefeld, John de Bobynton, Thomas del Lee, Thomas Launfrey, Philip de Merth, Thomas de Holbarugh, and Ranulf de la Broke. Who say upon their oath that John de Hadlowe held, for term of his life, certain lands and tenements at le Horewode of the King *in capite*, as of the Manor of Kynfare, viz., by the service of 22*s.* by the year. And there is there a certain chief messuage, worth nothing beyond the reprises; a certain carucate of land, worth 20*s.* and no more, because the land is poor. And 2 acres of meadow worth 3*s.*, but they were mowed during the life of the same John; there is no pasture in severalty. But there is there a certain wood which cannot be cut down, being required for the

cover of the King's deer in his Forest of Kynfare. And there is there of Rent of Assize of the Free men by the year 3*s.* 4*d.* There are no pleas and perquisites of courts there. And they say that the same John held the aforesaid tenements for term of his life only. Also that after the death of the same John the tenements aforesaid ought to remain to Nicholas, son of the aforesaid John, and his heirs for ever. And they say that the same John died the 5th August last past.

In witness, etc.

ALDRIDGE CHURCH.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants to Roger de Elington, Clerk, that he may give and assign one toft, one hundred and ten acres of land, and six acres of pasture with appurtenances in Allerwych to a certain Chaplain performing divine service every day for the healthful state of Edmund de Bereford, Roger Hillary, and the aforesaid Roger de Elington whilst they shall continue in this mortal life, and for the souls of the same Edmund, Roger, and Roger when they shall have departed this life, and the souls of all the faithful deceased, according to the ordinance of the same Roger de Elington to be thereupon made, in the Chapel of the Blessed Peter, newly erected by the same Roger de Elington in the parish church of Allerwyche. To have and to hold to the same Chaplain and his successors chaplains daily performing divine service in the same chapel in the form aforesaid for ever.—*Westminster*, 16 *February*, 20 *Edw. III.* (1346).

Inquisitions made at Lychfield, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 12th March 20 Edw. III.: by the oath of Robert de Mere, William Gerald, John de Kyngeston, Adam Jurdan, Henry le Bedeles, William Bergelon, Richard atte Cros, Roger Bromeye, Henry Alwyn, Roger atte Lee, William de Rushale, and John de Salleye, who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage or prejudice of the King, etc. And they say that the aforesaid toft, land, and pasture are holden of Fulk de Byrmyngham by the service of one rose by the year, and they are worth by the year 40*s.* in all issues

according to the true value of the same. And the same Fulk holds the same tenements of Hugh de Plesey, which same Hugh holds the same tenements of John de Sutton, Lord of Doddeleye. And the same John of the Lord the King. And there remains to Roger de Elynton, beyond the gift and assignment, forty shillings' worth of land and rent, viz., at Alrewych and elsewhere, and they are holden of the aforesaid Fulk by the service of 12*d.* by the year, and they are worth by the year beyond that service 40*s.* And they say that the lands and tenements remaining to the same Roger de Elynton, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, are sufficient, etc.

In witness whereof, etc.

ALDRIDGE CHURCH.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants to Roger de Elyngton, Clerk, that he may give and assign one toft, 110 acres of land with appurtenances in Alrewyche to a certain Chaplain; and also that the same Roger may be able to grant that six acres of meadow, with appurtenances in the same vill and Russhale, which Agnes Hallyn holds for the term of her life of the aforesaid Roger, and which after the death of the same Agnes ought to revert to the aforesaid Roger, shall remain after the death of the same Agnes to the same Chaplain performing divine service every day for the healthful estate of Edmund de Bereford, Roger Hillary, Master John de Ufford, Dean of Lincoln, Master Simon de Islop, Master William de Witteseye, Archdeacon of Huntingdon, John de Broughton, clerk, and the aforesaid Roger de Elyngton, whilst they shall continue in this mortal life, and for the souls of the same Edmund, Roger, John, Simon, William, John, and Roger, when they shall have departed this life; and for the souls of the father and mother of the same Roger de Elyngton, and the souls of all the faithful deceased, according to the ordinance of the same Roger de Elyngton thereupon to be made, in the Chapel of the Blessed Peter, newly erected by the same Roger de Elyngton in the Parish Church of Alrewych. To have and to hold to the same Chaplain and his successors Chaplains performing divine service there every

day in the same Chapel for the souls aforesaid, as it is aforesaid, for ever.—*Redyng*, 2 *April*, 21 *Edw. III.* (1347).

Inquisition made at Lichfield before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford on the 1st June, 21 Edw. III.: by the oath of Adam Jurdan, Henry le Bedel, Henry Wy, Richard Freman, Henry de Teddesleye, William of the Hethe, Henry Burgylon, Hugh le Forester, Henry Alwyng, Hugh le Smithe, Roger de Barre, and John Godefray. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King, etc. And they say that the aforesaid toft, land, and meadow are holden of Fulk de Bermyngham by the service of one rose by the year and they are worth by the year two marks in all issues according to the true value of the same. And the same Fulk holds those tenements of Hugh de Plesy, which same Hugh holds the same tenements of John de Sutton, Lord of Duddleye. And the same John holds them of the Lord the King. And those persons aforesaid are the mesne lords between the King and Roger de Elyngton. And there remain 40*s.* of land and rent to Roger, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, viz., at Alrewyche and elsewhere, and they are holden of Fulk by the service of 12*d.* by the year beyond that service of two marks. And the lands and tenements remaining to Roger de Elyngton, beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

(*On the back.*)—Let it be done for a fine of four marks.

ADAM DE PESHALE.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire, reciting that whereas the King for certain causes had seized into his hands all the lands and tenements which belonged to Adam de Peshale, and had, by his Royal Commission, delivered them into the custody of John de Okere to answer to the King for the issues and profits thereof, in the King's chamber; and now the King having been given to understand that Roger, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and John de Melbourn, clerk, and several others entered unlawfully, and without warrant, into certain lands and tenements which belonged to the same Adam, now in the King's hands,

and took possession of the issues of the said lands, and would not answer therefor to the King's officer aforesaid, etc.—*Windsor*, 16 *February*, 21 *Edw. III.* (1347).

Indorsed.—The answer of Simon de Ruggelege, Sheriff:—

I have not found, by the Inquisition, nor in any other manner, that Roger, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and John de Melbourn, clerk, or any other person daringly and without warrant, with force of arms, intruded into any lands or tenements which belonged to Adam de Peshale, which were seized into the King's hands and reserved for the King's private chamber, as appears in the Inquisition to this writ annexed.

An Inquisition made before Simon de Ruggeleye, Sheriff of Staffordshire, at Stafford, on Friday next after the close of Easter, in the 21 Edw. III.: by the oath of Thomas del Hide, William de Chauldon, Henry son of Walter de Tunstall, Hugh atte Pirie, Hugh le Newemon, John de Penyngton, John de Styvynton, John Iwynet, Henry de Walton, William de Onyleye, Henry del Hawe, and Henry de Mehay; who say upon their oath that there are no intruders in the lands and tenements which belonged to Adam de Peshale, and which were seized into the King's hands and placed in the custody of John de Okovre; and that no one did collect and carry away the profits and issues of the aforesaid land, except the aforesaid John de Okovre himself after he became *custos* of the land in question, by virtue of the King's commission; but they say that the Lord the King did grant to one Richard de Eccleshale, clerk, all the lands and tenements which belonged to Richard de Eccleshale, his father, which said grant Roger, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, did ratify and by his charter confirm, at the request of the King. And they say upon their oath that the aforesaid Bishop and John de Melbourn, clerk, did not intrude themselves in any of the lands or tenements which belonged to Adam de Peshale, and which were seized into the King's hands, and are in the custody of John de Okovre, by virtue of the King's commission and reserved in the King's chamber.

In witness, etc.

EDWARD ATTE WOOD.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Edward atte Wode.—*Redyng*, 12 *March*, 21 *Edw. III.* (1347).

Inquisition taken at Kynefare on the 8th May, 21 Edw. III., before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator: by the oath of William de la Horewode, Thomas atte Lowe, John le Clerk of Bobynton, John de la Horewode, Thomas atte Lee, Thomas Whetenhull, John Cole, John Bate, John de Enefelde, Roger de Blakenegge, Thomas Lanffrey, and William de Blockeleye. Who say upon their oath that Edward atte Wode held no lands nor tenements in his demesne as of fee, nor in service, on the day of his death, in the County aforesaid. But the King by his Letters Patent, of his especial grace, granted and gave licence for himself and his heirs as much as in him laid, to Henry de Mortimer, who at that time held for a term of his life, by grant of the King, the wardship of the Manors of Kynefare and Storton and of the Forest of Kynefare with appurtenances, that he might be able to grant the estate which he had in the same wardship to Edward atte Wode. To have and to hold to him and his heirs for the term of the life of the same Henry. Rendering therefor to the King and his heirs at the King's Exchequer yearly the same farm, which the aforesaid Henry for term of his life, (and the heir of Hugh Tyrel, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, under age and remaining in the wardship of the King; to which same heir the custody aforesaid, after the death of the same Henry, by virtue of a certain grant of the King made thereof in fee, belongs after the death of the said Henry), ought to render for the same custody. The same Lord the King granted, moreover, of his especial grace to the aforesaid Edward, that if it should happen that the aforesaid Henry should die during the minority of the heir abovesaid, through which the wardship of the Manors and forest aforesaid ought to belong to the King in the name of the wardship until the lawful age of the said heir, that then the same Edward should have and hold the wardship of the Manors and forest until the lawful age of the heir, and if the death of the heir should happen before he had arrived at his lawful age, his heir being under age, that then Edward should have and hold the

wardship of the Manors and forest until the lawful age of the same heir, so being under age, and thus from heir to heir until some one of the heirs should have arrived at his full age, to render the said farm to the King as it is abovesaid. And they say that Henry de Mortimer is still living, and that the aforesaid Manor and wardship of the forest are holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of £9 by the year, to be paid by the hands of the said Henry at the Feasts of Easter and St. Michael at the King's Exchequer. And the Manor is worth nothing beyond the service aforesaid, and the forest is worth nothing by the year unless pannage should happen and wind falls. And they say that the same Edward died at Chastel Gyoun in foreign parts[1] before the Feast of St. Michael last past, but they know not on what day. And they say that Margaret, daughter of the aforesaid Edward, is the next heir of the same Edward, and she is now of the age of seven weeks.

In witness, etc.

PRIOR OF ST. THOMAS', STAFFORD.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to Robert le Beck, that he may give and assign sixteen acres of land and four acres of meadow with appurtenances in Hopton; and to Hugh le White of Hughisdon (Hixon) and Roger atte Lowe of Hughtesldon, Chaplain, that they may give and assign three acres of meadow and five acres of pasture in Pendeford to the Prior and Convent of St. Thomas the Martyr near Stafford. To have and to hold to the same Prior and Convent, in part satisfaction of ten librates of land and rent which the King granted that they might acquire of the Chief Lords of that fee, for the services therefor due and accustomed.—*Redyng*, 30 *May*, 21 *Edw. III.* (1347).

Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Salop and Stafford, taken at Pencrych on 20th June, 21 Edw. III.: by the oath of William de Engelton, Nicholas de Pykestoke, William atte Maistres, Richard Pitok (Pidduck), Thomas Gerveyse, William o'the Hull atte Lude, William

[1] Walwyn's Castle, co. Pembroke.

de Bradeleye, William de Croukwalle, Richard le Taillur, Adam le Hunte, Hugh de Sonden, and Robert del Wodehalle. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor the prejudice of the King, etc. And they say that the sixteen acres of land and four acres of meadow in Hopton are holden of the Baron of Stafford by the service of 40*d.* by the year, and they are worth in all issues 3*s.* 4*d.* beyond the service aforesaid, and no more because the land is sandy, and the meadow and pasture rushy. And three acres of meadow and five acres of pasture in Pendeford are holden of the aforesaid Prior and Convent by the service of 18*d.* by the year, and they are worth in all issues, beyond the service aforesaid, 20*d.*, and no more, because the said meadow cannot be mowed before the Feast of St. Michael. And they say that the aforesaid Baron of Stafford is the mesne lord between the King and Robert le Beek of the sixteen acres of land and four acres of meadow and pasture in Hopton. And that Hugh le Whyte and Roger atte Lowe hold those three acres of meadow and five acres of pasture in Pendeford, of the Prior and Convent, and they hold the same of the Baron of Duddeleye by fealty, and they are the mesne lords between the King and Hugh and Roger. And they say that there remains forty librates of land and rent to Robert le Beek beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid, viz., at Hopton and Chekkeleye, and they are holden of the Baron of Stafford by knights' service. And there remain forty shillings' worth of land and rent to Hugh le Whyte of Hughtesdon (Hixon) beyond the three acres of meadow and five acres of pasture in Pendeford, and they are holden of Robert de Ferrers by the service of 12*d.* by the year. And there remain no lands nor tenements to Roger atte Lowe beyond the three acres of meadow and five acres of pasture in Pendeford. And they say that the lands and tenements remaining to Robert and Hugh beyond the gift and assignment aforesaid are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

RIDEWARE.

Writ addressed to the Sheriff of Staffordshire ordering him to certify to the King the cause of the caption, into the King's

hands, of one messuage, twenty acres of land and sixteen acres of meadow belonging to Thomas son of Robert de Pype in Rideware Hempstale and Little Rideware in the aforesaid County ; and also why a caption into the King's hands of other lands or tenements belonging to the same Thomas in the same vills was not made, etc.—*Redyng*, 11 *July*, 21 *Edw. III.*

An Inquisition made before Simon de Ruggeleye, Sheriff of Staffordshire, at Kyngesbromleye, on Monday next after the Feast of St. Peter ad vincula (6 Aug., 1347): by the oath of Henry de Ocleye, Richard de Strethay, Thomas atte Cros, Thomas le Harper of Rydeware, John le Byker, William de Boreweye, Ivo de Boreweye, Richard de Boreweye, Walter de Boreweye, John Hawys, John O' the Grene, and William in le Lone, who say upon their oath that Thomas son of Robert de Pype held for the term of his life of the demise of Sir Thomas de Arderne, Chivaler, one messuage, twenty acres of land, sixteen acres of meadow in Rydeware Hamptall and Little Rideware ; rendering yearly to the aforesaid Thomas de Arderne and his heirs four marks of silver and two cart loads of hay, two marks and two cart loads of hay at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, and two marks at the Feast of St. Martin, and the aforesaid Thomas son of Robert held the said tenements for fourteen years, before the aforesaid Thomas de Arderne was indicted for felony.

In witness, etc.

ECCLESHALL.

Mandate directed to Roger Hillary, John de Freford, and John de la Lee, reciting that John de Melburne, Prebendary of the Prebend of Eccleshale in the Church of St. Chad at Lichfield, has petitioned the King that whereas Adam de Peshale had disseised the same John of two plots, whereof one is called Heldemor and the other Horsleyeruding, and one acre of meadow and two acres of wood with appurtenances in Eccleshale, which of right belong and appertain to his prebend aforesaid, and which John de Kynardeseye, late prebendary of the prebend, recovered by a judgment as belonging to the same prebend, against Robert de Horseleye, Peter de Joneston, Roger de Brokhurst, William Parent, and Robert son of Elias de Horseleye,

unjustly occupying the same, and had so occupied the said plots, meadow, and wood until his death; and that the same plots, meadow, and wood had been taken into the King's hand together with the other lands and tenements of the aforesaid Adam forfeited to the King, and taken into the King's hands, and still remain in the King's hands; and he (John de Melburne) prays that the King will command the same to be restored to him, together with the issues taken from the same. The King wishing to be certified of all the above matters, and also whether the aforesaid John de Melburn or the said John de Kynardeseye, or any predecessor of the same John de Melburn, had given the above premises to Adam de Peshale, or had remitted or quit-claimed the right he had in the same to Adam de Peshale, assigns Roger Hillary, John de Freford, and John de la Lee to inquire, etc.—*Gloucester*, 5 *September*, 21 *Edw. III.* (1347).

Mandate from Roger Hillary, John de Freford, and John de la Lee to the Sheriff of Stafford, desiring the Sheriff to cause to come before them at Lichfield on Thursday next before the Feast of St. Michael, 24 knights as well as other lawful and good men of the view of Eccleshale, by whom the truth of the above matters may be inquired into. And also to warn the *custos* of the lands and tenements abovementioned that he may have an opportunity of being present at the inquiry.—*Salop, on Tuesday next after the Feast of the Exaltation of Holy Cross*, 21 *Edw. III.*

Inquisition taken at Lichfield, before John de Freford and John de la Lee, Justices of the King, on Monday next before the Feast of St. Michael, 21 Edw. III.: by the oath of James de Stafford, Chivaler, John de Aston, Chivaler, Malcolm de Wasteneys, Chivaler, Robert de Aston, Ralph del Wak, William de Aston, John de Redeswell, Robert de Joneston,[1] Roger de Abbenhale, John de Stoke, John de Horseleye, and Ralph de Thikkebrom. Who say upon their oath that Heldemor and Horsleyrudyng, 1 *ac.* of meadow and 2 *ac.* of wood in Eccleshale, of right belong and appertain to the Prebend of John de Melburne, Prebendary of the Prebend of Eccleshale in the Church of St. Chad at Lichfield, and were so from the time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. And that Adam de Peshale

[1] Johnson Hall, by Eccleshall.

disseised the same John of the same tenements, viz., on Monday next after the Feast of St. Michael in the 9 Edw. III. (1335) and so occupied the same tenements by his disseison until his death, viz., until the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord, 20 Edw. III. (1346). And they say that the same tenements, together with the other lands and tenements of the same Adam, were taken into the hands of the King by reason of the forfeiture of the same Adam, and not for any other reason. And that neither John de Melburn nor John de Kynardeseye, nor any predecessors of the same John de Melburn gave those tenements to Adam, nor made any deed, writing, or quitclaim thereof to Adam. And they say that the tenements are holden in pure and perpetual alms without any service, and that the same tenements are worth by the year 19*s*. They say also that the aforesaid plot, which is called Heldemor, contains 6 acres. And the aforesaid plot, which is called Horseleyerudyng, contains nine acres of pasture.

In witness, etc.

(*On the back.*)—John de Okore (Okeover), custos of the lands and tenements within mentioned, was warned by Roger Hillary and likewise by the Sheriff to be present at the taking of the Inquisition within written, which same John was at that time there present, and was unable to say anything that might postpone the taking of the Inquisition aforesaid.

SANDON CHURCH.

Royal Commission addressed to Roger Hillary, Simon de Ruggeleye, Sheriff of Stafford, and John de Okore, reciting that whereas John son of Adam de Peshale has shown to the King that the Abbot and Convent of Cumbermere, lately granted and sold to the same Adam and John all the fruits and profits belonging to the Church of Sondon, which they possess for their own use (the tithes of sheaves and hay belonging to the Vicar of the church aforesaid always excepted); to have and receive to the said Adam and John and their assigns, from the year of Our Lord 1342, until the end of thirty years then next following fully to be completed, which said fruits and profits, among other lands and tenements that belonged to the same Adam, were for

certain causes seized into the King's hands, and reserved for the King's Chamber; whereupon the said John has petitioned the King that he would be pleased to order the said fruits and profits to be delivered to him, as would be consonant with right, to be had and received, until the full completion of the aforesaid term, in the form aforesaid. The King desiring that justice should be done to the said John, wishes to be fully certified whether or not the Abbot and Convent did so grant the fruits and profits to the same Adam and John, and whether or not Adam and John did afterwards release or quitclaim the said fruits and profits to the same Abbot and Convent, or did make thereof any other estate to them, or to any other person, and whether or not the same fruits and profits have been taken into the King's hands. The King has thereupon assigned the aforesaid Roger, Simon, and John to inquire by a Staffordshire jury, etc.—*Westminster*, 6 *July*, 22 *Edw. III.* (1348).

SCHEDULE.

Thomas Nowel (sworn) mainperned by Richard Snel and Thomas Togod.

Thomas de Dotton (sworn) mainperned by Adam de Bigge and William de Bigge.

John de Houton (sworn) mainperned by John de Heth and Richard Brom.

Thomas le Venables (sworn) mainperned by Robert Aleyn and Roger de Wotton.

Richard de Smalrys (sworn) mainperned by William Agney and Ralph Ody.

Thomas de Greneweye (sworn) mainperned by Richard le Brown and William Corbet.

William Sterre (sworn) mainperned by William de Morhay and Steynal Ridel.

William Jurdan (sworn) mainperned by Peter de Shene and William Gilbert.

Robert Wolrych (sworn) mainperned by William le Baxter and John atte Gappe.

John de Styvynton (sworn) mainperned by Roger Morel (?) and John Judrel.

Roger le Bret (sworn) mainperned by John, William, and Hugh atte Wode.

Richard de Lee (sworn) mainperned by William Cade and Richard Spade.

John Unet (sworn) mainperned by Richard Papejay and William Dun.

Adam Wolrych (sworn) mainperned by John Mille and Richard Gille.

Richard Grom (sworn) mainperned by Robert Bate and Richard Druet.

John Molet (sworn) mainperned by William Banaster and Adam le Hyne.

Henry atte Mulne (sworn) mainperned by William Lovot and Richard Lone.

John Wyt (sworn) mainperned by Richard Scot and John Scot.

John de Aston of Sondon (sworn) mainperned by Ralph Michel and John Michel.

Robert Luttelmay (sworn) mainperned by John Hemery and Richard Druet.

An Inquisition taken at Pencrych, before Roger Hillary and Simon de Ruggeleye, Sheriff of Staffordshire, Justices assigned to take an Inquisition in the aforesaid county, by virtue of the King's commission to this Inquisition annexed, and directed to the same Roger and Simon, on Saturday the Eve of St. Laurence (9 Aug., 1348): by the oath of Thomas Nowel, Thomas de Dotton, John de Houton, Thomas de Venables, Richard de Smalrys, Thomas de Greneweye, William Sterre, William Jurdan, Robert Wolrych, John de Styvynton, Roger le Bret, and Adam Wolrych, who say upon their oath that the Abbot and Convent of Combermere lately granted and sold to Adam de Peshale, and John son of the said Adam, etc., from the year 1342 unto the end of thirty years then next following fully to be completed, as in divers letters of the same Abbot and Convent appears. And Adam and John did not afterwards release and quitclaim the said fruits and profits to the same Abbot and Convent, and the fruits and profits were seized into the King's hands on account of the forfeiture of the aforesaid Adam and not for any other cause, and so they have remained in the King's hands until now.

In witness, etc.

HORSLEY AND ADAM DE PESHALE.

A Commission from King Edward the Third addressed to Roger Hillary, Simon de Ruggeleye, Sheriff of Staffordshire, and John de Okore, reciting that John de Horsle has shown to the King that Adam de Peshale held, during his life, forty acres of land in Horsley of the inheritance of the same John, for the term of the life of Robert de Horsle, father of the same John, whose heir he is, of the demise of the same Robert, which forty acres, among other lands, which belonged to the same Adam, were taken into the King's hands, on account of the forfeiture of the same Adam. Whereupon he has petitioned that the King will be pleased to deliver to him the said forty acres of land. The King being desirous of doing what is right, wishes to be fully certified whether or not, etc. The King has thereupon assigned the aforesaid Roger, Simon, and John to inquire by the oath of a Staffordshire jury concerning the truth of the premises, etc.—*Westminster*, 6 *July*, 22 *Edw. III.* (1348).

PANEL.

Thomas de la Hyde mainperned by Richard Scot and Robert Foyl.

John de Burghton mainperned by John la Warde and Robert la Warde.

Robert de Sogenhull (sworn) mainperned by Ralph Michel and Roger Michel.

John de Stoke (sworn) mainperned by John atte Noche and Richard Strup.

John de Horseleye (sworn) mainperned by Henry Scot and William Scot.

Robert le Budel (sworn) mainperned by John Tochet and Richard Tochet.

Adam de Ocle (sworn) mainperned by Roger Ridel and John Ridel.

Edmund de Prestbury (sworn) mainperned by John atte Pipe and Hugh atte Pipe.

William de Offeleye mainperned by John Bole and Richard Bole.

Roger le Mareschal (sworn) mainperned by John Colle and Walter Colle.

William de Huntebache (sworn) mainperned by Richard Tiwe? and John Tiwe?

Philip de Frankevyle mainperned by Robert Fowe and William Fowe.

Henry de Huntebache (sworn) mainperned by Henry Dobbe and William Dobbe.

Robert son of Ely (sworn) mainperned by Roger Foyl and John Foyl.

Robert le Serjaunt (sworn) mainperned by William Fox and Richard Coleman.

Richard le Taylour (sworn) mainperned by Ralph Gibbe and Richard Gibbe.

Adam le Warde mainperned by Roger Moyl and Richard Moyl.

John le Parker mainperned by John Mille and Richard Pipejay.

John de Badenhal mainperned by John Folke and Roger Mille.

William Bamevyle mainperned by Henry Foy and John Foy.

An Inquisition taken at Pencrych, before Roger Hillary, and Simon de Ruggeleye, Sheriff of Staffordshire, Justices, assigned by the King to take an Inquisition in the aforesaid County, by virtue of a Commission annexed to this Inquisition and directed to the same Roger and Simon, on Saturday the Eve of St. Laurence (9 August, 1348): by the oath of Robert de Soggenhulle, John de Stoke, John de Horsleye, Robert le Budel, Adam de Ocle, Edmund de Prestbury, Roger le Mareschal, William de Huntebache, Henry de Huntebache, Robert son of Ely, Robert le Serjaunt, and Richard le Taillour, who say upon their oath that Robert de Horsle, father of John de Horsle, did demise to Adam de Peshale forty acres of land in Horsale to hold for the term of the life of the same Robert, and that the aforesaid Adam, on the day that he died, was seized of the aforesaid land, by virtue of the demise of the aforesaid Robert—whereof 26 acres are holden of the Lord Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, by the service of 23*s.* 6*d.*

yearly, and the residue of the same land is holden of John de Melbourne, prebendary of one portion of the prebend of Eccleshale, by the service of 2*s.* yearly, and the forty acres are worth yearly 6*s.* 8*d.* beyond the service aforesaid, and Robert on the day of his death (something omitted) and the same John is the next heir of the same Robert, and that the same land, together with other lands and tenements, were taken into the King's hands on account of the forfeiture of the aforesaid Adam.

In witness, etc.

LAURENCE DE HASTINGS, EARL OF PEMBROKE.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Laurence de Hastynges, late Earl of Pembroke.—*Westminster*, 2 *September*, 22 *Edw. III.* (1348).

Inquisition made at Tamworth before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Tuesday next after the Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle (23rd September, 1348): by the oath of William de Comberford, William de Whytacre, John de Gumpeyate (?), Adam Basset, Ralph de Bollenhull the elder, William Atkyns, Ralph de Bollenhull the younger, John de Bollenhull, John de Rouleye, John son of Alan, William Matheu and Geoffrey Togod. Who say upon their oath that Laurence de Hastynges, late Earl of Pembroke, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the Manor of Wygynton, of the King *in capite*, by homage. In which same Manor there is half a carucate of land worth 20*s.* and no more, because the land is poor, and nevertheless the third part lies fallow every year and in common. There are eight acres of meadow worth 16*s.* and no more, because those meadows, after the hay is carried away, are in common. There is no building, garden, dovecote, nor anything of the kind. But there are three water-mills, and they are worth 60*s.* And a certain fulling-mill worth 16*s.* And a certain wood, the pasture whereof is worth nothing, because it is in common, and whereof there is no underwood. And of rent of assize of the free tenants by the year 100*s.*, and they are paid at the terms of

St. Michael, St. Andrew, the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, and the Nativity of St. John the Baptist by equal portions. The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 6*s.* 8*d.* They say also that the same Earl held in his demesne, as of fee on the day of his death, a certain yearly rent of 100*s.*, from the moiety of the vill of Tamworth, which same moiety is parcel of the aforesaid Manor of Wygynton, and the aforesaid rent is paid at the Feasts of St. Michael, the Nativity of Our Lord, Easter, and St. John the Baptist by equal portions. And they say that the same Earl died on the 28th August last past. And they say that John de Hastynges, son of Laurence, is the next heir of Laurence, and he was of the age of one year at the Feast of St. John the Baptist last past (24 June).

In witness, etc.

Extent made at Tamworth before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator on the 8th October, 22 Edw. III.: by the oath of Alan de Coton, William de Cumberford, Ralph de Rothewelle, William de Lynton, Henry le Rede, Thomas de Glascote, Ralph Byron, William Beynyn, John de Gumpyate, Alan Cok, Alan del Heth, and Alan Serch. Who say upon their oath that Laurence de Hastynges, late Earl of Pembroke, held no fees in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, nor advowsons of churches in the County aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE BENTLEY.

Mandate directed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, stating that the King has been informed that John son and heir of John de Benteleye, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, died whilst under age and in the wardship of the King. The Sheriff is commanded to inquire by the oaths of good and lawful men of his bailiwick what lands and tenements, by reason of the minority of the heir aforesaid, have come into the hands of the King or of others, etc. —*Woodstok*, 8 *May*, 23 *Edw. III.* (1349).

Inquisition made at Pencryche, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Wednesday next after the Feast of the Holy Trinity, 23 Edw. III., by the oath

of John Marchys, John Cocy, William Jones, Robert Colesone, John del Heth, Walter del Heth, John Petit, John de Bloxwich, Simon Aldych, William Hory, William de Bloxwych, and William de Schareshull. Who say upon their oath that John de Benteleye, deceased, held of the King *in capite*, on the day of his death, the Manor of Benteleye, after whose death it came to the hands of the King by reason of the minority of John son and heir of the aforesaid John. And the King by his charter, has granted to William de Petlyng the custody of the Manor, together with the marriage of the heir, until the lawful age of the heir. Rendering therefore by the year at the King's Exchequer two marks, for the custody aforesaid, and for the marriage 10 marks. Which same William hath granted his estate to William Chaumpion, rendering therefor by the year the farm aforesaid, and the aforesaid Manor now remains in the custody of the aforesaid William Chaumpion.

In which same Manor there is a certain chief messuage, which is worth nothing by the year beyond the support of the dwellings, and a certain garden which is worth by the year *6d.*; there are no dovecotes, fisheries, ponds, nor anything of the kind. But half a carucate of land worth 10*s.*, and three acres of meadow worth 3*s.* And of rent of assize of the free tenants by the year 2*s.* 6*d.* and no more, because the tenants are dead.[1] And a certain several pasture worth 2*s.* And they say that the Manor of Benteleye is holden of the King *in capite* by Serjeanty, viz., by the service of keeping the King's Haye of Benteleye. And no other lands nor tenements came to the hands of the King, nor to the hands of any other persons whatsoever, by reason of the minority of the heir. And they say that the same John son and heir of the aforesaid John de Benteleye died on Holy Easter day last past (12 April, 1349). And they say that William son and heir of the aforesaid John de Benteleye is the next heir of the same John, and he was of the age of half a year at the Feast of St. Philip and St. James last past.[2]

In witness, etc.

[1] The Black death had killed them all.

[2] *I.c., b.* 1 Nov., 1348.

Mandate directed again to John de Swynnerton, as before.—*Windsor*, 30 *April*, 23 *Edw. III.* (1349).

Inquisition made at Pencryche before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on 10th May, 23 Edw. III.: by the oath of William in le Holt of Hulton, John de Peleshale, John le Cok, John de Rucroft, Nicholas le Cok, John Flemmyng, William de Bradeleye, Robert Costei, Nicholas del Holt, Robert Edyth, Thomas de Stretton, and Nicholas de Wybaston. Who say upon their oath, as before. But there is there half a carucate of land worth 6*s.* 8*d.* and no more, because the land is very poor and sandy, and the third part lies fallow every year and in common. And two acres of meadow worth 18*d.* and no more, because after the hay is carried away they lie in common. There are there no other profits. Of rent of assize of the free tenants there used to be there 4*s.*, but now it is deficient because the tenants are dead in the present pestilence. There are no pleas or perquisites of Courts. And they say that the aforesaid Manor of Benteleye is holden of the King *in capite* by Serjeanty, etc., as before.

ISABEL DE FERRERS.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Isabella, who was the wife of Henry de Ferrers.[1]—*Westminster*, 18 *August*, 23 *Edw. III.* (1349).

Inquisition made at Mukleston, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on 2nd October, 23 Edw. III.: by the oath of Roger de Heyberne, John de Endon, Adam de Dutton, Adam de Endon, Robert de Berne, John de Assheleye, William son of Richard . . . , . . . , . . . , Hugh le Taillour, and Richard le Meillour, who say upon their oath that Isabella de Ferrers, deceased, held in her demesne as of fee, on the day of her death, at Wotton in the County of Stafford, certain lands and tenements, which are parcel of the Manor of Alveton, which is holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of one knight's fee. There are there no messuages, demesne lands, nor meadows, but there is a certain park in which

[1] She was daughter and co-heiress of Theobald de Verdon and married Henry de Ferrers, lord of Groby.

there is now no underwood, because in the year last past it was cut down, but the pasture of the same is worth by the year 40*d.* And of Rent of Assize by the year 13*s.* 4*d.*, at the Terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael. The pleas and perquisites of Courts there are worth by the year 2*s.* and no more, on account of the pestilence.[1] They say also that the aforesaid Isabella died on the day of St. James the Apostle last past (July 25). Also that William de Ferrers, son of Isabella, is the next heir of Isabella, and was of the age of 18 years at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist last past.[2]

In witness, etc., 18*s.* 8*d.*

JOHN DE BROMLEY.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Bromleye.—*Westminster*, 6 *September*, 23 *Edw. III.* (1349).

Inquisition made at Mukleston, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator on the 2nd October, 23 Edw. III.: by the oath of Roger de Heyberne, John de Endon, Adam de Dutton, Adam de Endon, Robert del Berne, John de Assheleye, William (son) of Richard, Hugh le Taillour, Thomas de Wytemer, William de Staundon, William le Taillour, and Richard Meyler, who say upon their oath that John de Bromleye, deceased, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the third part of the Manor of Assheleye, of the King *in capite*, by the service of the third part of one knight's fee. There are not there any messuages or lands in demesne. And there are there 5 acres of meadow which used to be worth 5*s.*, and now they are not worth more than 2*s.* 6*d.*, and this on account of the pestilence.[3] And a several pasture worth 2*s.* And there used to be there 30*s.* by the year of Rent of Assize, at the Terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael, and now there are there only 10*s.* at the same terms, by reason of the present pestilence. There are now no pleas and perquisites there.

They say also that the same John held in his demesne as of fee on the day of his death the Manor of Bromleye (Gerrards),

[1] *Cf.* 20*s.* on pp. 103–4.

[2] *I.e.*, *b.* 24 June, 1331.

[3] The worst period of the "black death" was in 1348–9.

of the Bishop of Chester, by the service of the fourth part of a knight's fee. In which Manor there is a certain chief messuage, which is worth by the year, with the profit of the garden, 40*d.* And one carucate of land which used to be worth 20*s.*, and now it is not worth more than 13*s.* 4*d.* by reason of the pestilence. And two water-mills which are not extended because they are altogether destroyed. And there used to be of Rent of Assize there by the year 20*s.*, and now there are there not more than 10*s.* at the same terms, and this is on account of the pestilence. They say also that the same John held in service as of fee, on the day of his death, 10*s.* of rent at Woyngton (Wenington), of Robert de Knythleye by the service of 5*s.* by the year, which rent is paid at the terms aforesaid.

They say also that the same John died on Monday next after the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary last past (17 August, 1349). They say also that Alice daughter of the aforesaid John is the next heir of the same John, and she was of the age of a half year at the Ascension of our Lord last past (21 May, 1349).

In witness, etc.

SIMON DE RUGELEY.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Simon de Ruggeleye. Dated at *Westminster*, 6 *September* (1349).

Inquisition made at Ruggeleye before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Sunday next before the Feast of St. Clement (22 November, 1349), by the oath of John le Neveu the elder, William le Rider, John le Neveu the younger, Nicholas le . . . , Adam Elyot, Richard de Brewode, John le Mareschall, Ralph son of Thomas de Ruggeleye, Richard le Wright, Adam Prentys of Heywode, William Phelip, and Robert son of Henry, who say upon their oath that Simon de Ruggeleye, deceased, held no lands nor tenements in demesne nor in service of the Lord the King *in capite*, nor of any other person, in the County of Stafford on the day of his death ; because the same Simon gave all his lands and tenements by charter in fee to William de Heywode, Robert Aylbright, and Richard de Bradeleye, Chaplains, half a year

before his death. And they say that Umfrey, son of the aforesaid Simon de Ruggeleye, is the next heir of the same Simon, and is of the age of fourteen years, and is as it is said at Oxford. And they say that the same Simon died on Sunday next before the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary last past (9 August, 1349).

In witness, etc.[1]

SIMON DE RUGELEY.

Mandate directed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, stating that whereas by Inquisition taken by the same Sheriff at the King's command after the death of Simon de Ruggeleye, deceased, and returned into the King's Chancery, it is shown that the same Simon held no lands nor tenements on the day of his death of the King *in capite*, through which the wardship of the lands and tenements which were of the same Simon on the day of his death ought for the present to belong to the King, and that Humfrey son of the same Simon, is his next heir, and of the age of fourteen years. And because it is shown by inspection of the Rolls of the King's Chancery that the King heretofore on the 9th February, 20 Edw. III., had given and granted for him and his heirs to the aforesaid Simon his fishpond, called le Kyngespole, near Stafford: To have and to hold to the same Simon and his heirs of the King and his heirs by the service of holding the King's stirrup at his first mounting upon his palfrey at every visit of his to the town of Stafford, and rendering to the King by the year at his Exchequer two marks; and it is not shown by inspection of the Rolls of the said Chancery that the same Simon demised the same fishpond from himself and alienated it without the King's licence; the King considers the Inquisition aforesaid very insufficient and deserving of suspicion; and it is now shown before the King's Council that the same Simon died seised as well of the said fishpond as of other lands and tenements, through which the wardship of the same ought to belong to the King. The Sheriff is thereupon commanded to take into the King's hand the aforesaid fishpond with appurtenances, and

[1] Simon de Rugeley was, generally, both sheriff and M.P. for Staffs., 1336–49. He was a king's yeoman.

all the other lands and tenements which were of the same Simon in the Sheriff's bailiwick, and to cause the same to be safely kept until the King shall otherwise command. And by the oaths of good and lawful men, etc.—*Westminster*, 30 *November*, 23 *Edw. III.* (1349).

Inquisition made at Lychefeld before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Monday next after the Feast of St. George, 24 Edw. III. (26 April, 1350), by the oath of Richard de Wenlok, Robert de Aston, Ralph del Wal, Philip de Aston, John le Curson, John Neveu, William le Rydere, John Neveu the younger, Richard de Brocton, Reginald de Lynton, Nicholas de Lecroft and Stephen de Fordyane. Who say upon their oath that Simon de Ruggeleye, deceased, heretofore held of the King *in capite* a fishpond called le Kyngespol near Stafford, by the service of holding the stirrup of the King at his first mounting upon his palfrey at every visit he makes to the town of Stafford, and rendering to the King by the year at his Exchequer two marks; which same fishpond the said Simon alienated to the Prior and Convent of St. Thomas the Martyr near Stafford a long time before his death without obtaining the licence of the King. And they say that the said Simon held at Ruggeleye one messuage worth nothing beyond the reprises, and one carucate of land worth 20*s.* and no more, because the land is sandy, and notwithstanding the third part of the same lies fallow every year and in common: and he held there six acres of meadow worth 12*s.*, and they were moved and the hay carried away during the life of the same Simon; and six acres of pasture in severalty worth 6*s.*; and of rent of the cottagers by the year 10*s.* And they say that the aforesaid messuage with the lands, meadow, pasture and rents aforesaid are holden of the Bishop of Chester (Coventry) by the service of 22*s.* by the year. And Simon held at Hondesacre one messuage worth, with the garden and dovecote, 10*s.*, and one carucate of land worth 13*s.* 4*d.* and no more, because the land is poor and sandy, and notwithstanding the third part lies fallow every year and in common; and 10 acres of meadow worth 20*s.*, and they were mowed and the hay carried away during the life of the aforesaid Simon; and thirty acres of pasture in severalty worth 30*s.*; and of rent of cottagers

by the year 3*s*. And the aforesaid messuage with the garden and dovecote, with the lands, meadows, pastures, and rents aforesaid, are holden of Simon, son and heir of William de Hondesacre, Knight, by the service of two marks by the year. And they say that the same Simon (de Rugeley) held at Longedon one messuage worth nothing beyond the reprises: and one carucate of land worth 24*s*. and no more, because the third part lies fallow every year and in common; and they say that the aforesaid messuage with the land are holden of the Bishop of Chester by the service of 11*s*. by the year and suit at the Court of the said Bishop at Lychfield every three weeks. Which same messuages, garden, dovecote, lands, meadows, pastures, and rents at Ruggeleye, Hondesacre, and Longedon, the aforesaid Simon demised away from himself, about half a year before the day of his death, to Robert Aylbright, William de Heywode, and Richard de Bradeleye, Chaplains.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE LOGES.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Loges.—*Westminster*, 1 *October*, 23 *Edw. III.* (1349).

Inquisition made at Pencriche, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on 16th October, 23 Edw. III.:—by the oath of William del Dych, Robert Herbert, Richard del Canokbury, John Tromwyn, Henry le Smith, Robert Warde, Alan le Clerk, John de Hampton, John Henrys, Henry de Eton, Adam de Stretton, and Robert de Norton. Who say upon their oath that John de Loges, deceased, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, certain lands, tenements, and rents with appurtenances in Great Wyrleye in the County aforesaid, of the Lord the King *in capite*, by the service of keeping the King's Forest of Cannoc; which same lands, tenements and rents used to be worth before these times, 100*s*., and now they are worth 60*s*., if they could be demised, and no more, because of the present pestilence and the paucity of tenants. There are no pleas nor perquisites of Court there. But they say that the same John died on the 22nd August last past. They say also that Alianora wife of John, son of William

de Peyto, is the daughter of the aforesaid John de Loges, deceased, and the next heir of the same John, and she was of the age of 16 years and more at the Feast of Pentecost last past.[1] And they say that the aforesaid John did not hold any other lands or tenements in the said County of Stafford on the said day of his death.

In witness, etc.

HOSPITAL OF ST. JOHN, LICHFIELD.

Writ addressed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, to inquire whether it will be to the damage of the Lord the King, or any other person, if the King grant to Adam de Eton, Chaplain, and John Wylimot, Chaplain, that they may give and assign twenty messuages, sixty acres of land, four acres of meadow, and a rent of 18*s.* 10*d.* in Lichfield, Longedon, Herdewykepipe, Allershawe, Elmhurst, and Shenston, to the Prior and Brethren of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist in Lichfield, and their successors for ever in part satisfaction of ten librates of land and rent, which the King, by his Letters Patent, gave them licence to acquire, etc.—*Westminster*, 12 *October*, 23 *Edw. III.* (1349).

An Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Lychefeld, on Tuesday next before the Feast of All Saints, 23 Edw. III.: by the oath of Ralph Teynturel, Nicholas de Routhewalle, Roger Godman, Robert de Draycote, William Heyryng, William le Huwester, John Brown, Robert de Wesleye, Thomas Sytefynch, Richard del Peek, Ralph Wysmon, and Hugh Lutesone; who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the Lord the King, etc. And they say that of the aforesaid twenty messuages, fifteen are holden of the Bishop of Chester, by the service of 15*s.* yearly, and they are holden of the Prebendary of the Prebend of Freford, by the service of 10*s.* yearly; and they are holden of the aforesaid Prior and Brethren, by the service of 6*s.* yearly: and they are worth yearly in all issues 60*s.* beyond the aforesaid service. And the Bishop and Prebendary, and the said Prior

[1] *I.e.*, *b.* 1 June, 1333.

and Brethren are mesne lords between the King and the aforesaid Adam and John ; and no lands or tenements will remain to the same Adam and John beyond the donation and assignment aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

ST. CHAD'S, LICHFIELD.

Writ addressed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, to inquire whether or not it will be to the damage of the King or any other person if the King grants to Stephen de Chelaston and John Bolemere that they may give and assign twenty-four messuages, six acres of land, and a rent of 4*s.* in Lichfield, to the Vicars of the Church of St. Chad, in Lichfeld : to have and to hold to them—vicars of the said church—and their successors for ever, in part satisfaction of the lands, tenements, and rent which the King, by his Letters Patent, gave them power to acquire, to the value of 100*s.* yearly, etc.—16 *October*, 23 *Edw. III.* (1349).

An Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Lychefeld, on Monday on the Feast of St. Clement (23 November, 1349) : by the oath of Ralph del Wal, Thomas le Tavernor, Gilbert Ladi, John in le More, Richard de Leycestre, Roger de . . . , John Asshemesbrok, Stephen Fordiane, Robert Teyntrel, John Boule, Robert de Aston, and Philip de Timmore, who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the King, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid messuages, lands, tenements, and rent are holden of the Bishop of Chester, by the service of 68*s.* yearly, and they are worth yearly 43*s.* beyond the service aforesaid. And the Bishop is mesne lord between the King and Stephen and John ; and they say that the aforesaid Stephen and John held no lands except the aforesaid donation and assignment.

In witness, etc.

WILLIAM TRUMWYN.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of William Trumwyn.—*Westminster*, 1 *November*, 23 *Edw. III.* (1349).

Inquisition made at Cannokbury, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Monday next after the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, 24 Edw. III. (5 July, 1350): by the oath of William Haronesone, John Griffyn, William son of Nicholas, Richard Bounde, John atte Mersch, William son of Thomas atte Brok, Thomas Robyns, Nicholas son of William atte Brok, Richard son of Reginald le Taillour, John le Chapmon, Richard son of William, and Richard Trumwyn. Who say upon their oath that William Trumwyn, deceased, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, one messuage in the vill of Cannoc, and one virgate of land in le Conk (?) of the King *in capite*, by the service of keeping the King's haye of Chistelyn; and the said messuage is worth nothing beyond the support of the dwellings. They say also that William held in his demesne as of fee on the day of his death, of the Bishop of Chester at Cannoc, 2 carucates of arable land by the service of 32*s.* 8*d.*, and they are worth beyond the service aforesaid 10*s.* and no more, because the land is sandy. And there are there 4 acres of meadow which are worth by the year 2*s.*, the price of the acre 6*d.*

They say also that the same William and Alice his wife, who is still living, held conjointly on the day on which the said William died, one messuage and 40 acres of land in Whytegreve in the County aforesaid, of the Dean of Stafford, by the service of 5*s.* by the year, and the aforesaid messuage and the aforesaid 40 acres of land are worth beyond the service aforesaid 12*s.* They say also that the same William died on the 27th September last past. And they say that William son of the aforesaid William Trumwyn is the next heir of the same William and he was of the age of 19 years at the Feast of St. Michael (29 September) last past.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE BROMLEY.

Mandate directed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford. The King wishes to be certified whether or not Hillaria, who was the wife of John de Bromeleye, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, happens to have held any lands or tenements conjointly with the same John, late her husband, on the day on which the same John died ; and if so then what lands and what tenements, and of the enfeoffment of what person or persons, and what lands and what tenements the same John held in his demesne as of fee on the day aforesaid, and which came into the hands of the King by reason of the death of the same John and by reason of the minority of the heir of the same John. The sheriff is commanded, etc.—*Westminster*, 20 *July*, 24 *Edw. III.* (1350).

Inquisition made at Stafford before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Thursday next after the Feast of St. Matthew (23 September, 1350) : by the oath of Roger de Aston, William de Norton, Robert de Heywode, Roger de Heyburne, Adam de Brokton, John de Hendon, William le Taillour, Richard Meillour, Robert Gerveyse, Roger de Neuport, John de Clarnes (? Charnes), and William de Cestrea.

Who say upon their oath that Hillaria, who was the wife of John de Bromleye, deceased, held conjointly with the same John, formerly her husband, on the day on which the same John died, the moiety of the hamlet of Brokhurst in the County of Stafford of Ralph, Baron of Stafford, by the service of the eighth part of one knight's fee, and by the service of 10*s.* by the year. In which same moiety of the hamlet there is a certain messuage worth with the garden there 3*s.* 4*d.*, and a certain dovecote worth 2*s.* 6*d.* And 2 carucates of land worth 40*s.* And 5 acres of meadow worth 10*s.* And divers plots of pasture in severalty, which contain 10 acres, worth 6*s.* 8*d.*

And they say that John and Hillaria held on the day on which the same John died one messuage and half a virgate of land in Podemor, of Ralph de Ferrers, by the service of 2*s.* by the year ; and the messuage and half virgate are worth beyond the service aforesaid 20*s.*

They say also that John de Bromleye, deceased, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the third part of the Manor of Assheleye of the King *in capite*, by the service of the third part of one knight's fee. There are there no messuages nor demesne lands. But there are 5 acres of meadow worth *2s.* *6d.* And a certain pasture in severalty worth *2s.* And of Rent of Assize by the year *12s.* at the Terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael by equal portions. There are no pleas and perquisites of the Courts there.

They say that the same John de Bromleye, deceased, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the Manor of Bromleye (Gerrards) of the Bishop of Chester, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee, and by the service of *10s.* by the year. In which Manor there is a certain chief messuage worth *12d.* And a certain garden worth *2s.* And one carucate of land worth *13s.* *4d.* There are two water-mills which are entirely destroyed, and therefore are not extended. Of Rent of Assize there used to be there *20s.* by the year, and now they say upon their oath that there is no more than *11s.* by the year.[1] They say also that the same John held in service as of fee, on the day of his death, *20s.* of rent at Wonynton, of Robert de Knythteleye, by the service of *11s.* by the year.

In witness, etc.

ECCLESHALL.

Mandate directed to William de Shareshull, Richard de Stafford, Roger de Aston, and Hugh de Aston. Stating that Roger, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, has prayed the King by his petition exhibited before the King and his Council, that whereas Adam de Peshale,[2] deceased, held on the day of his death of the same Bishop certain lands and tenements within the Manor of Eccleshale belonging to the same Bishop as of the right of his church of St. Chad at Lichfield, by the service of four pounds, nineteen shillings and sixpence by the year, and by certain other services; and the said rent from the time of the death of the aforesaid Adam, on the day of his death, for

[1] The pestilence again.

[2] He had been bailiff of the bishop, and was slain resisting arrest in 1345.

certain reasons were taken and are kept in the King's hands; remaineth until now in arrear to the same Bishop; he (the same Bishop) prayed that the King would command the same rent, together with the arrears of the same, from the time aforesaid, to be paid to the same Bishop. The King, in order that he may cause to be done that which is just, wishes to be certified what lands and what tenements Adam so held of the Bishop, on the day of his death; and he assigns the above William de Shareshull and the others to inquire by the oath of good and lawful men of the County of Stafford, in the presence of the Custos of the lands and tenements, to be warned by them, if he shall wish to be present.—*Westminster*, 4 *February*, 25 *Edw. III.* (1351).

William de Shareshull and his associates assigned by Commission of the King to take a certain Inquisition between the King and Roger, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, in the County of Stafford, to the Sheriff of the same County; Greeting—on behalf of the King we command thee that thou do cause to come before us at Brewode on Wednesday in the fifth week of Lent, 18 free and lawful men of the view of Eccleshale, by whom the truth of the matter may be better ascertained, to acknowledge upon their oath what lands and what tenements Adam de Peshale, deceased, held of the aforesaid Bishop in thy County, on the day of his death, and by what service, etc. And thou shalt have there the writ Close of the Lord the King, which hath come to thee concerning the same, the names of the Jurors, and of those through whom thou shalt have sent the warning aforesaid, and this mandate.—*Westminster*, 16 *February*, 25 *Edw. III.*

On the back.—The answer of Thomas Adam, Sheriff. The execution of this Mandate is carried out, as appears in the writ of the Lord the King, and in the inquisition to this mandate served. And as to causing the *Custos* of the lands and tenements mentioned in the writ to be warned, I, Thomas Adams, Sheriff, am the Custos of the lands and tenements aforesaid: and because I cannot be personally present before you on the day and at the place mentioned in the writ, on account of other business of the King, I send you in my name as Sheriff and Custos of the lands and tenements aforesaid, Richard de Engleton, to give evidence at the same Inquisition for the Lord the King,

and to do all things which I should do, if I were personally present.

Inquisition taken at Brewode, before William de Shareshull, and Hugh de Aston, by virtue of the writ patent of the King to this Inquisition served; on Wednesday in the fifth week of Lent, 25 Edw. III.: In the presence of Richard de Engleton, the deputed of Thomas Adam, Sheriff of the County of Stafford, and *Custos* of the lands and tenements which were of Adam de Peshale in the County of Stafford: by the oath of John atte Brok, John de Chebbeseye, Stephen de Aspeleye, John atte Grove, Robert Elys of Horsleye, Thomas de Hakedon (Acton), Thomas de Sardon, Thomas Dalowe, Richard de Kemesheye, Richard Banastre, Roger le Smyth, and John le Budel. Who say upon their oath that the aforesaid Adam de Peshale, on the day of his death, held of Roger, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, the lands and tenements underwritten within the Manor of Eccleshale, viz., two messuages and the third part of nine virgates of land in Bishops Offeleye within the Manor aforesaid, by the service of the twelfth part of one knight's fee, and by the service of finding the third part of the ploughing with two ploughs in the demesne lands of the Bishop of his manor aforesaid for four days in every year; viz., for two days at the time of the winter seed, and for two days at the time of the Lenten seed at his own proper costs, and the day's work of each ploughing is worth entirely 4*d.*; and by the service of finding at his own proper costs the third part of the expenses for eight men for the Chace of the Bishop at his park of Blore for three days in every year, and for eight other men to reap the corn within the aforesaid Manor of the Bishop likewise for three days in the autumn of every year, when he (Adam de Peshale) and the other tenants of the remainder of the nine virgates of land charged with the aforesaid services shall be warned thereto by the Bishop. And each day's work of each of the aforesaid men for the Chace, etc., is worth ½*d.* And each day's work of each of the aforesaid men for reaping, etc., is worth 1½*d.* And for the messuages and third part of nine virgates of land Adam is bound to do suit at the Court of the Bishop of Eccleshale every three weeks. He held also one messuage and the fourth part of two virgates of land in Wotton, within the aforesaid Manor, late

of Robert le Frank, by fealty and service of twelve pence by the year. The moiety of one virgate of land in Herteshalgh, heretofore of Peter de Hakedon (Acton), 12*d.*; one burgage in Le Marketstede, heretofore of John le Bedel, 12*d.* The moiety of one burgage there, heretofore of John de Medbourne, 6*d.* The moiety of one burgage there, heretofore of William the Wheeler, 6*d.* The moiety of one burgage there, heretofore of Adam le Gurdelere, 6*d.* The moiety of one burgage in Donkesfordelane, heretofore of Richard le Barkere, 6*d.* The moiety of one burgage there heretofore of Henry le Mason, 6*d.* The sixth part of one burgage with a certain increment, viz., one small plot of land annexed to the same, heretofore of the aforesaid Adam le Gurdelere, 2½*d.* The moiety of one burgage in a certain place within the Manor aforesaid called Byyondence, heretofore of Roger le Mareschall, 6*d.* The moiety of one burgage with appurtenances in Edianescroft, heretofore of the same Roger le Mareschal, 6*d.* The third part of one burgage near Piereswall, heretofore of John de Haliok, 4*d.* The fourth part and the twelfth part of one burgage near the Cross, heretofore of Warin le Blount, 4*d.* The moiety of one burgage in le Barre Medewe, heretofore of Thomas le Bedel, 6*d.* The moiety of one burgage in le Marketstede, heretofore of the same Thomas, 6*d.* One burgage and a half in le Polcroft, heretofore of the same Thomas, 18*d.* One burgage near le Sperte, heretofore of the same Thomas, 12*d.* The moiety of one burgage in le Sperte, heretofore of the same Thomas, 6½*d.* Two cottages upon the heath ground, heretofore of the same Thomas, 2*s.* The ninth part of a certain field called Donkesford, 14*s.* Six acres of land and a half in the ancient park, heretofore of the aforesaid Thomas le Bedel, 6*s.* 6*d.* The moiety of one acre of land there, heretofore of John Wyther, 6*d.* One field which is called le Prestesfeld, heretofore of Robert de Horseleye, 8*s.* 3½*d.* Two acres and two parts of one rood of land in le Boolebruch, heretofore of the same Robert, 13*d.* Seventeen acres and one rood and a half of land, heretofore of the same Robert, lying separately at Cassebruch, and Hulleforde, 14*s.* 6½*d.*, etc. Ten acres of land and a half at le Foxholes and la Casse, heretofore of Stephen de Horsleye, 8*s.* 9½*d.* One rood of meadow near Hulleford, heretofore of the same Stephen, 3*d.* One rood of

meadow there, heretofore of Editha de Coton, 3*d.* One plot of land and pasture there, heretofore of William Fraunceys, 12*d.* Three roods of meadow near Hullefordheye, and the moiety of one acre of meadow at Lyghthurst, heretofore of William Parent, 1*s.* 3*d.* Two plots of land enclosed in Arleyes. Ten acres of land in Lythewode and Westwode. One plot of land enclosed upon le Rowehull, heretofore of Robert de Cotes, 4*s.* One acre and a half of land upon le Rowehull, heretofore of Adam de Aspeleye. The moiety of one acre of land there, heretofore of Thomas le Wodeward, 2*s.* One acre and one rood of land in Gratewode, heretofore of John Drewery, 15*d.* One acre of land near the Cemetery, heretofore of Thomas de Cestre, 12*d.* Three roods of land and a half at Brokholebruche, heretofore of Nicholas de Horsleye, 10½*d.* One acre of land, Royal, in the new field, 2*s.* 3*d.* And one acre of land called le Newebruche near Hullefordehaye, 12*d.* And three roods of land near the garden of the same Adam at Offeleye, 9*d.*[1] And they say that all the aforesaid lands and tenements, and no more, the aforesaid Adam held of the aforesaid Bishop within the Manor of the same Bishop of Eccleshale, by the services aforesaid. And he died seised of the same lands and tenements in his demesne as of fee.

In witness whereof, etc.

ST. THOMAS' PRIORY, STAFFORD.

Writ addressed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, to inquire whether or not it will be to the damage of the King, or any other person, if the King should grant to Ralph, Earl of Stafford, that he may give and assign one messuage and one acre of land in Bisshebury, and the advowson of the church of the same vill to the Prior and Canons of the Church of St. Thomas near Stafford, to hold to them and their successors for ever.—*Westminster*, 1 *August*, 25 *Edw. III.* (1351).

An Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Stafford, on Tuesday next before the Feast of All Saints (25 October, 1351): by the oath of John de Bromcote, William de Coten, Robert le Marchal,

[1] All the above held by fealty and service of so much by the year.

Richard le Brokton, Richard de Mancester, Adam Snell, Nicholas de Pycstoke, John de Pencrych, Richard de Stokton, Roger de Podemor, John Tytnesouere, and Robert de Tyxhale, who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the King, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid messuage, land, and advowson are holden of John de Sutton, Lord of Duddeleye, by the service of one pound of pepper yearly. And they are worth yearly 12*d.* And the church is worth yearly £10. And John Sutton is mesne lord between the King and the aforesaid Earl for the said messuage, land, and advowson.

In witness, etc.

ST. THOMAS' PRIORY, STAFFORD.

Writ addressed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, to inquire whether or not it will be to the damage of the King, or any other person, if the King should grant to William de Lilleshull, Baker, that he may give and assign two virgates and twelve acres of land in Ricardescote, Eburton (Orberton), and Coton near Stafford, to the Prior and Convent of the Church of St. Thomas near Stafford, to hold to the same Prior and Convent and their successors for ever.—*Westminster*, 3 *September*, 25 *Edw. III.* (1351).

An Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Tuesday next before the Feast of All Saints (25 October, 1351): by the oath of John de Bromcote, William de Coten, Robert le Marchal, Richard de Brokton, Richard de Mancester, Adam Snell, Nicholas de Pykestoke, John de Pencrych, Richard de Stocton, Roger de Podemore, John de Tyntnesoure, and Robert de Tyschale, who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the King, etc. And they say that the land is holden of the Earl of Stafford by the service of 2*s.* yearly, and the land is worth yearly 3*s.* 4*d.* beyond the service. And the Earl is mesne lord between the King and William for the land aforesaid. And no lands or tenements will remain to the same William after the donation and assignment aforesaid be made.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE ODYNGSELES.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Odyngseles.—*Westminster*, 24 *November*, 26 *Edw. III.* (1352).

Inquisition made at Stone, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on 10th April, 27 Edw. III. (1353): by the oath of Thomas de Berlaston, Roger de Stone, William de Trentham, Richard de Upton, Alan Derlaston, Henry de Adbaston, Thomas de Knythton, John de Neuport, and William Deston. Who say upon their oath that John de Odyngseles, deceased, and Amysia his wife, who is still living, held conjointly, on the day on which the same John died, the Hamlet of Berlaston, by the gift and enfeoffment of Roger Corbet, father of the aforesaid Amysya, of Ralph, Earl of Stafford, by the service of 10*s.* by the year. In which same hamlet there is a certain messuage worth nothing beyond the reprises, and a certain dovecote worth 2*s.*, and 2 carucates of land worth 40*s.* And of Rent of Assize of the free tenants by the year 100*s.*, and it is paid at the Terms of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael by equal portions. The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 2*s.*

And they say that the aforesaid John de Odyngseles died on the morrow of St. Bartholomew last past (25 August, 1352). And they say that John de Odyngseles, son of the aforesaid John de Odyngseles, is the next heir of the same John, and he was of the age of 16 years at the Feast of St. Michael last past.[1]

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE BOTTETOURT.—SETTLEMENT.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grant to John Buttetourt that he may enfeoff Thomas Sherione, parson of the Church of Sheldesleye, and Henry de Haukeserd, Chaplain, with his Manor of Honnesworth with appurtenances, and the advowson of the moiety of the Church of the same Manor, which are holden of the King *in capite*. To have and to hold to them and their

[1] *I.e.*, *b. c.* 29 September, 1336.

heirs, etc. Also that they, having had thereof full and peaceable seisin, may be able to give and grant the aforesaid manor with appurtenances and advowson to the aforesaid John and Jacosa his wife.—*Westminster*, 16 *April*, 27 *Edw. III.* (1353).

Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, taken at Lichfield, on 3rd May, 27 Edw. III.: by the oath of Richard de Wysleye, Henry Elys, Robert del Heth, Richard atte Fenne, Richard Trewelowe, John Westerne, William de Byrmyngeham, Robert de Whytemersche, John Neuman, Richard de Greethurst, John Turnpeni, and Richard de Bylynton. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the King, etc. And they say that the aforesaid Manor, etc., are holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee. And the Manor is worth by the year, in all issues, 10 marks. And the advowson of the moiety of the Church is worth nothing by the year. But the said moiety of the Church aforesaid is worth by the year, in all issues, 100*s*. And there remain to the said John, beyond the manor and advowson aforesaid, the Manor of Meere in the County of Stafford, with a certain hamlet called Swyneford, and they are holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of £10, to be paid at the King's Exchequer by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford. And they say that the aforesaid Manor of Meere, with the aforesaid hamlet of Swyneford, are worth by the year, beyond the farm aforesaid, 100*s*.

In witness, etc.

ROBERT DE FERRERS OF CHARTLEY.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Robert de Ferrers.—*Westminster*, 12 *October*, 27 *Edw. III.* (1353).

Inquisition made at Stowe, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Friday in the Feast of St. Nicholas (December 6), 27 Edw. III.: by the oath of Ralph le Parkere, Roger de Walton, William le Wasteneys, John le Wasteneys, William Clerk, Adam de Warilowe, William le Bakere, John le Bakere, John le Smyth, William son of Robert, Michael Wasteneys, and Nicholas le Warner. Who say upon their oath that Robert de Ferrers, deceased, held no lands

nor tenements in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite*, nor in service, in the County of Stafford. But he held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the Manor of Charteleye in the County of Stafford of the Earl of Chester, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee. In which same Manor there is a certain chief messuage worth nothing beyond the reprises. And a certain orchard worth 12*d.* And a certain water-mill worth 13*s.* 4*d.* And one carucate of land worth 20*s.* and no more, because the land is poor. And 6 acres of meadow worth 12*s.* And a certain park, the underwood worth 10*s.*, and the pasture of the same 10*s.* And of Rent of Assize by the year 100*s.*, and it is paid at the Feasts of St. Michael and the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary by equal portions. And the pleas and perquisites of the courts there are worth by the year 13*s.* 4*d.*

And they say that the aforesaid Robert de Ferrers died on the 28th August, 24 Edward III. And they say that John son of the aforesaid Robert de Ferrers is the next heir of the aforesaid Robert, and he was of the age of 21 years at the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary last past.[1]

In witness, etc.

KING'S BROMLEY.

Mandate directed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford. The King wishes to be certified of the reason wherefore the Escheator has taken the Manor of Kingesbromley into the King's hand. The Escheator is commanded to certify the King in his Chancery touching the same.—*Westminster*, 10 *February*, 28 *Edw. III.* (1354).

John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, to the Sheriff of the same County; Greeting—I command thee that thou do cause to come before me and Hugh de Aston at Kyngesbromleye on this instant Saturday, in the week of Pentecost, eighteen good and lawful men of the view of Kyngesbromleye, to hear and do those things, which shall be commanded to them on the part of the King. And this in no

[1] *I.e.*, *b.* 2 February, 1332.

wise do thou omit.—*Stafford, Sunday in the Feast of Pentecost*, 28 *Edw. III.*

I took into the hands of the King the Manor of Kyngesbromleye with appurtenances, in the County of Stafford, because Elizabeth who was the wife of Robert Corbet held the aforesaid Manor of the King *in capite*, on the day of her death, conjointly with the aforesaid Robert Corbet, heretofore her husband, as I found by Inquisition before me made by virtue of a writ of *Diem clausit extremum*, directed to me from the Chancery of the King, which same Manor is holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee, as it is said, and by the service of rendering at the King's Exchequer 100*s.* by the year, by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford.

Mandate directed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, and to Hugh de Aston, stating that Hawisia, daughter and heir of Robert Corbet and Elizabeth his wife, has petitioned the King, that whereas the Manor of Kyngesbromleye, which is of her inheritance, has been held of the King in soccage, by the service of £4 by the year, for all service, by a charter of John, heretofore King of England, the King's progenitor, and the same Hawisia and all her ancestors have always held the same Manor, by the same service from the time of the making of the charter aforesaid until now, and not by knight's service nor any part of knight's service; and that the said Manor, by colour of a certain Inquisition taken by the aforesaid Escheator, by the King's mandate, after the death of the aforesaid Elizabeth, by which Inquisition it is shown that the same Manor is holden of the King *in capite*, by service of the fourth part of a knight's fee, has been taken into the King's hands by the aforesaid Escheator, by reason of the minority of the same Hawisia in the name of wardship, she (Hawisia) has prayed the King to command his hand to be amoved from the same Manor. The King wishing to do what is right in the matter, assigns the same Escheator and Hugh de Aston to inquire, etc., concerning the premises, etc.—*Westminster*, 20 *May*, 28 *Edw. III.* (1354).

Inquisition taken at Kingsbromleye, before John de Swynnerton, Escheator, and Hugh de Aston, by virtue of a certain commission to them directed, on Saturday in the week of

Pentecost, 28 Edw. III.: by the oath of Ralph de Thikbrom, Richard de Longsdon, Richard de Brotton, Robert le Walch, William de Brotton, Richard Beton, Richard Lesewys, William Brown of Curburgh, William de Curburgh, Roger de Boures, Thomas de Clon, and Robert atte Cros, Jurors. Who say upon their oath that the Manor of Kingesbromleye in the Commission named is holden of the King in soccage, viz., by the service of £4 by the year for all service, as it is contained in a certain Charter of the Lord King John, exhibited before the same Jurors in evidence, and not by knight's service. And they say that the Manor aforesaid is worth by the year in all issues, according to the true value of the same, except the reprises, eight marks.

In witness, etc.

ELIZABETH CORBET.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Elizabeth who was the wife of Robert Corbet of Hadlee.[1]—*Westminster*, 17 *January*, 27 *Edw. III.* (1354).

Inquisition made at Kyngesbromleye, before John de Swynnerton, Escheator of the King in the County of Stafford, on Saturday on the Morrow of the Purification of the Blessed Mary (3 February, 1354): by the oath of Thomas atte Halle, Thomas atte Westende, Robert Godhed, John le Taillour, Thomas atte Forde, Thomas Penk, William le Fyschere, John othe Grene, Thomas atte Cros, John le Palmere, John de Parys, and Richard Ernald. Who say upon their oath that Elizabeth who was the wife of Robert Corbet of Hadleye, deceased, held conjointly with the aforesaid Robert, heretofore her husband, the Manor of Kyngesbromleye with appurtenances, in the County of Stafford of the King *in capite*, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee, and by the service of 100*s.* to be paid at the King's Exchequer by the hands of the Sheriff of Stafford. In which same Manor there is a certain decayed messuage worth nothing. There are no demesne lands, dovecote, garden, nor anything of the kind. But there are two acres of meadow worth 4*s.*, and one water-mill worth 10*s.* and no more, because it is in a ruinous condition, and a certain pannage from a certain wood called Bromleyewode

[1] Also of King's Bromley and Barlaston.

worth 2*s*. And there is no other profit from that wood, because it is in the King's forest. And of Rent of Assize by the year 10 marks, and it is paid at the Feasts of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, St. John the Baptist, St. Michael, and St. Andrew by equal portions. And the pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 10*s*.

And they say that the aforesaid Elizabeth died on the 1st January last past. And they say that Hawysia, daughter of the aforesaid Robert and Elizabeth, is the next heir of the same Elizabeth, and she was of the age of 5 years at the Feast of St. Nicholas last past.[1]

In witness, etc.

PRIOR OF LAPLEY.

Mandate directed to Roger Hillary, Hugh de Aston, John Musard, and Hugh le White. Stating that Baldwin de Spinale, Prior of Lappeleye, an alien, has shown to the King: that whereas the custody of his Priory of Lappeleye, together with everything belonging to the same Priory has been committed to his charge by the King: To hold during the war between the King and his adversary of France. Rendering therefor yearly to the King at his Exchequer twenty marks; and that the same Priory, as well by the pestilence which lately raged, and afterwards by a certain sudden conflagration which arose in the said Priory, as by divers other imminent misfortunes, has been devastated, debilitated, and impoverished to such an extent that the issues and profits arising from the same Priory are in no wise sufficient for the support of the same Prior and his necessary servants, and for the payment of the said farm, so that the same Prior will be compelled to restore his said custody to the King, and to relinquish his said house, unless a mitigation of a portion of the farm aforesaid or of the whole shall be made to him by the King for some time, in aid of the relief of his estate, and of the Priory aforesaid. The same Prior therefore prays that the King will, on account of the matters above stated, grant him relief. The King therefore, in order that he may do advisedly that which is best both for himself

[1] *I.e.*, *b*. 6 December, 1348.

and the same Prior, in the same matter, wishes to be certified how much the same Priory is worth by the year, according to the true value of the same, viz., in demesnes, homages, villenages, services, rents, and other issues of the land; and also in Ecclesiastical benefices appropriated to the same Priory, and pensions due to the same, if there be any; and the King assigns the above Roger Hillary and others to extend the Priory aforesaid by the oaths of good and lawful men of the County of Stafford, etc.—*Westminster, 22 March, 28 Edw. III.* (1354).

Roger Hillary and his associates, Justices of the King, assigned to take a certain Inquisition between the King and Baldwin, Prior of Lappeleye, in the County of Stafford, to the Sheriff of the same County; Greeting—On the part of the King we command thee, that thou dost cause to come before us at Lichfield on Monday in the sixth week of Lent, 24 good and lawful men of the view of Lappeleye; to hear and do those things which shall be enjoined to them on behalf of the King. And thou shalt have there the writ close of the King, which shall come to thee concerning the same, and this mandate.—*Bertmescote, Tuesday in the fifth week in Lent, 28 Edw. III.*

Inquisition taken at Lychefeld before Roger Hillary, Hugh de Aston, and John Musard, by virtue of Letters Patent of the King in this Inquisition sewed, on Monday in the sixth week of Lent, 28 Edw. III.: by the oath of Roger de Pickeford, John de Coveleye, Henry Lord of Pilatenhale, John de Wolseleye, Richard del Neuport, John de Covene, John Morys, William le Warde of Weston, Richard Banastre, Richard de Bruynton, Roger Walter of Pilatenhale, and Henry son of Thomas de Pilatenhale. Who say upon their oath that there are at Lappeleye, belonging to the Priory of Lappeleye, one chamber worth, beyond the reprises, twelve pence; three granges each worth, beyond the reprises, 12*d.*; and that there are no more messuages within the Manor aforesaid, because all the other messuages of the same Manor by an unlucky accident were burned; two carucates of land worth, beyond the reprises, 20*s.*; ten acres of meadow worth, beyond the reprises, half a mark; thirty acres of land which lie uncultivated, worth half a mark; twenty acres of waste, each acre worth 3*d.*; six acres of wood, each acre worth 2*d.*; and there are no more

demesnes of the Priory aforesaid, except two water-mills and one wind-mill which are overthrown, and are worth nothing by the year; and three ponds which are entirely dried up, and contain in themselves three acres of pasture, and each of them is worth by the year *6d.* They say there are of rents of service £4 10*s.* by the year; two Great Courts holden by the year, the profits of which, when the farm thereof is paid by the King at his Exchequer by the year, in nowise exceed five marks. The pleas also and the perquisites of the little courts there holden are worth by the year 20*s.*; and the Ecclesiastical benefices are worth by the year six marks and no more, because the Prior of the Priory aforesaid has nothing there, except the tithes of corn, and of this only two parts of the same tithe. And they say that there are not any pensions due to the same Priory. Total of the Extent by the year £11 14*s.* 10*d.*[1] And they say that the Priory aforesaid is worth nothing by the year beyond the Extent aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE HERONVILL.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Herovill.—*Westminster*, 14 *June*, 28 *Edw. III.* (1354).

Inquisition taken before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Tuesday next after the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (1 July, 1354): by the oath of Reginald de Neuport, Richard de Wauer, Nicholas le Peyntour, Robert de Derlaston, Henry de Mokeslowe, John Bonde, John Wilkyns, Richard le Harper, John del Grene, John Delowe, Thomas Golde, and John Wauters, who say upon their oath that John de Herovill held of the King *in capite* and in demesne, on the day of his death, the Manor of Wednesbury by the service of rendering yearly to the King twenty-one shillings and eight pence, at the two terms of the year, viz., at the Feasts of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael, by equal portions, for all services. And he held nothing of the King in service. And the Manor of Wednesbury is worth by the year in all issues one hundred shillings. And

[1] Compare this with the valuation before the pestilence.

the same John held on the day of his death the fifth part of the Manor of Tibynton, of Nicholas Burnell *in capite* and in demesne, by knight's service. Rendering therefor yearly four shillings at the aforesaid terms by equal portions. And the said fifth part of the Manor of Tibynton (Tipton) is worth 13*s.* 4*d.* in all issues, the reprises excepted. And he held nothing of the aforesaid Nicholas in service, nor of any other persons in demesne, nor in service, on the day of his death. And they say that the same John Herovill died on the 8th June last part. And that John, son of John Herovill aforesaid, is the next heir, and he is of the age of twenty-four years and upwards.

In witness, etc.

RALPH BASSET OF DRAYTON.—Proof of Age.

Mandate directed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, stating that Ralph Basset of Drayton, kinsman and heir of Ralph Basset of Drayton, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, asserts that he is of full age, and has prayed the King that the lands and tenements which are of his inheritance and in the wardship of Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, until the lawful age of the heir aforesaid, may be given up to him. The king wishes that the same Ralph, who was born at Waleshale in the County aforesaid, and was baptized in the Church of the same vill, as it is said, should prove his age before the same Escheator. The Escheator is therefore commanded, etc.—*Westminster*, 30 *April*, 29 *Edw. III.* (1355).

The proof of age of Ralph Basset, kinsman and heir of Ralph Basset of Drayton, deceased, taken before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Waleshale, on the 8th May, 29 Edw. III.: by the oath of the underwritten, viz.,

John de Oldynton, of the age of 50 years and upwards, sworn and diligently examined, touching the age of the aforesaid Ralph. Who says that the same Ralph was of the age of 21 years on the 30th November last past, because he was born at Waleshale, and baptized in the church of the same vill, on the last day of November, in 7 Edw. III. It being demanded of

him how he knows this, says, that on the said day of the birth of the said Ralph, he announced the birth of the same Ralph to Thomas, then Abbot of Hales Oweyn ; and that the same Abbot should have come to Waleshale because he was to be the godfather of the same Ralph. Which same Abbot did so then come ; by which he well recollects that he is of full age.

Clement de Wylleston, of the age of 54 years and upwards, sworn. It being demanded of him how he knows this, he says that on the said day of the birth of the said Ralph, he was in the service of Thomas le Rous, Chivaler, who likewise was then godfather of the said Ralph ; through which it sufficiently recurs to his memory that he is of full age.

Thomas atte Broke, of the age of 46 years and upwards, sworn, says that John his firstborn son was born on the Feast of St. Nicholas, Bishop, next following the birth of the aforesaid Ralph ; which same John his son has been reputed as coetaneous with the same Ralph, up to the present time ; through which circumstance he well remembers the age aforesaid.

Hugh le Rydare, of the age of 44 years and upwards, and Robert de Yolbrugge, of the age of 50 years, sworn, say that on the Morrow of the Conception of the Blessed Mary next after the birth of the aforesaid Ralph, they proved the will of John son (*sic !*) of the aforesaid Hugh, whose Executors they were, and by the date of the same will they can sufficiently show the truth of the age aforesaid.

William le Sweyn, of the age of 60 years and upwards, sworn, says that at the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary next after the birth of the said Ralph, he set out on his way towards St. James (of Compostilla) ; by which he well recollects the age aforesaid, and that he is of full age.

John Lyon, of the age of 48 years, Thomas atte Chircheyard, of the age of 53 years, sworn, say that the aforesaid William le Sweyn at the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord next after the birth of the said Ralph, before he thus set out on his pilgrimage, enfeoffed John de Stoke, Chaplain, with all his lands and tenements in Walshale, and the same John and Thomas were witnesses in the Charter so made ; and by the date of the said Charter they can sufficiently show the truth that he is of full age.

Richard Jones, of the age of 60 years, sworn, says, that on Monday next after the Feast of the Epiphany next after the birth of the said Ralph, he took to wife Alicia daughter of John Sampson; through which it well recurs to his memory that he is of full age.

John de Hurste, of the age of 50 years, and John in le Grene, of the age of 60 years, sworn, say, that on the said day of his birth they were present together, and saw the said Ralph then borne to the Church of Walshale, and there baptized and carried back from the same unto the Manor of Walshale, with singers and a great crowd of people giving praises to God for the birth of the said Ralph, . . . show the truth that he is of full age.

Robert Thikkebrom, of the age of 54 years, sworn, says that Alianora his wife was . . . immediately after his birth; through which he well recollects that the aforesaid Ralph is of full age.

In witness, etc.

And I made known to Thomas de Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, by Gilbert le Lady and John le Cok, that he might be present, if he had anything to show or to urge, wherefore the lands and tenements which are of the inheritance of the aforesaid Ralph should not be given up to him, who is of full age. . . . Who did not come, nor did he care to send anyone on his behalf.

PHILIP DE SOMERVILL.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* on the death of Philip de Somervill, directed to Robert Fraunceys, John Alrewas, and Henry de Prestwode, Subescheator in the County of Stafford.—*Westminster*, 12 *May*, 29 *Edw. III.* (1355).

Inquisition taken at Tuttebury before Robert Fraunceys and John de Alrewas, on the 17th May, 29 Edw. III.: by the oath of Henry de Hambury, William de Kynardesleye, John de Sperham, John de Duffeld, Richard de Barton, John de Allerewych, Ives de Burwey, Roger le Barbour, John son of Robert de Barton, John de Neusam, John Eliot, and Nicholas Rose, who say upon their oath that Philip de Somervill, deceased, held none of his lands nor tenements in his demesne as of fee, in the County of Stafford, on the day of his death, of the King, nor

of any other person. But they say that Edmund de Somervill, who held the Manor of Alrewas of the King *in capite*, did give and enfeoff the Manor to the aforesaid Philip, by licence of the King, and a fine levied thereupon in the Court of the same Lord the King: To have and to hold to the same Philip and his heirs for ever. And the same Edmund did give and enfeoff to the aforesaid Philip the Manors of Whichenovre (Wichnor), Briddeshalle, Tunstal, and Neubold in the County of Stafford, by a fine levied thereupon. To hold to the Philip and his heirs for ever. Which Philip, by the licence of the King, gave the aforesaid Manors of Alrewas and Whichenovere to Richard de Billyngton: To hold to him and his heirs for ever, and afterwards the aforesaid Richard, by the licence of the King, and by a fine levied thereupon in his Court, did grant the aforesaid Manors to the aforesaid Philip, and did give them up to him in the aforesaid Court; To hold to the same Philip and the heirs male of the bodies of the same Philip and Margaret his wife begotten; which same Manor is holden of the King *in capite* at fee farm of £10 of ancient farm at the Feasts of St. Michael and Easter by equal portions; and 100*s.* of the increase of the same, at the Feast of St. Michael aforesaid; and doing to the Lord the King the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee: And to hold the aforesaid Manor of Whichenovere of the Duke of Lancaster, as of the Honor of Tuttebury, by the service of two knight's fees, according to the small fees of Morteyn, viz., by the licence of the King, and by a fine levied thereof in the Court of the King. And if it happen that the same Philip die without heir male of the bodies of the same Philip and Margaret begotten, that then after the decease of the same Philip, the aforesaid Manors with appurtenances shall entirely remain to Resus ap Gruffyth and Joan his wife, and the heirs of the bodies of the same Resus and Joan begotten. Which same Philip and Margaret are dead without heir male between them begotten, and the aforesaid Resus and Joan are still living. And the aforesaid Manor of Alrewas is worth in all issues, beyond the farm aforesaid, 66*s.* 8*d.* They say also that the Manor of Whichenovere is worth nothing beyond the reprises. And there are there in demesne 160 acres of arable land, each acre worth 2*d.*, total 26*s.* 8*d.* And 60 acres of meadow worth 60*s.* And 30 acres of pasture

worth 20*s.* And one water-mill worth, beyond the reprises, 10*s.* And a certain park, the herbage worth nothing beyond the support of the deer. And one foreign wood, the herbage worth 10*s.* And the dead wood of cablish in the park and wood aforesaid is worth 60*s.* And of rent, as well of the freemen as of the bondsmen, with the services and customs of those of rent certain, who render at the Feasts of Pentecost and Martin by equal portions 102*s.* 4½*d.* The pleas and perquisites of the Courts there are worth by the year 10*s.*

They say also that the aforesaid Philip held on the aforesaid day the Manor of Tatenhull conjointly with Margaret his wife, of the inheritance of the same Margaret, of the Duke of Lancaster in soccage, by the gift and enfeoffment of John Prynce and John de Warrewyk, by a fine levied thereof in the Court of the King: To hold as before. And the aforesaid Manor is worth in all issues 100*s.* 6½*d.*

They say also that the aforesaid Philip held Barton under Nedwode, Briddeshalle, Tunstal, and Neubold with appurtenances in the county aforesaid, of the Duke of Lancaster, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee, by the gift and enfeoffment of John Prynce and John de Warrewyk, viz., by a fine levied thereof in the Court of the King: To hold as before And they say that the aforesaid tenements are worth in all issues £6 5*s.* 4½*d.* And they say that the aforesaid Philip did not hold any other lands or tenements neither in demesne nor in service, in the said county, on the day of his death. But they say that the aforesaid Philip died on 23rd January last past.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE BOTTETOURT.—Settlement.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants to John son of Thomas Buttetourt, Chivaler, that he may enfeoff Thomas Shirrene, parson of the church of Sheldesleye, and Henry de Haukeserd, Chaplain, with his Manors of Mere and Clent with appurtenances in the County of Stafford, which are holden of the King *in capite*: To have and to hold to the same Thomas

and Henry, etc. And to the same Thomas and Henry that they having had full and peaceable seisin of the Manors may be able to give and grant the same Manors to the aforesaid John and Jocosa his wife: To have and to hold to them and the heirs of their bodies begotten, of the King, etc. Also that if the same John and Jocosa shall die without any heir of their bodies begotten, then the Manors aforesaid with appurtenances shall remain to the right heirs of the same John, to be holden of the King and his heirs by the services aforesaid for ever.—*Westminster*, 10 *June*, 29 *Edw. III.* (1355).

Inquisition taken at Hondesworth, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 3rd July, 29 Edw. III.: by the oath of Richard de Wyrley, Adam le Parkere, John Bokyng, Henry del Heth, William Baillyf, William Molde, Robert del Heth, John Bakere, Henry Elis, Robert atte Bruggend, William son of Geoffrey, and Richard de Bilynton. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor prejudice of the King, etc. And they say that the aforesaid Manors are holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of rendering by the year into the King's Exchequer £16 4*s.* 6*d.*, by the hands of the Sheriff, at the Feasts of St. Michael and the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary by equal portions, for all things. And they say that the said Manors are worth by the year, beyond the aforesaid £16 4*s.* 6*d.*, in all issues 30*s.*, and no more than that, by reason of the pestilence.

In witness, etc.

BLORE HEATH.

Mandate directed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, stating that Richard de Lichefeld and Christiana his wife have petitioned the King; that whereas Roger, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, heretofore by his charter, with the licence of the King, had given and granted to the aforesaid Richard and Christiana one plot of waste called Bloreheth, within the Manor of Eccleshale, containing one hundred and six acres of land: To hold to Richard and Christiana, and the heirs of the same Richard, in exchange for certain lands and tenements in Leton and the vill of Prees,

within the Manor of the same Bishop, of Prees, in the County of Salop; given and granted to the same Bishop by the aforesaid Richard and Christiana; and now that the same Richard and Christiana would have been able at the least to have had their advantage out of the same waste, they are greatly disturbed by the Prior and Convent of Ronton, who claim common of pasture in the same waste. They (the same Richard and Christiana) have prayed the King to grant to them, in order to avoid the same impediments, and that they may be able to hold two parts of the aforesaid waste in severalty without impeachment of the said Prior and Convent, that they may be able to give and assign to the aforesaid Prior and Convent a third part of the waste aforesaid, which is extended at thirty-six acres of land. To hold to the same Prior and Convent and their successors for ever, in compensation of the common abovesaid.

The King's wishes to be certified whether it is to his damage or prejudice, etc.—*Westminster*, 15 *April*, 29 *Edw. III.* (1355).

Inquisition made at Adbaston, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Monday next before the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Mary, 10 Aug., 1355: by the oath of Henry atte Halle, Hugh le Merser, William de Wyrleye, John de Pykstoke, William de Tybrython, Henry de Hatton, Thomas de Knythton, Robert son of John Hugynes, Thomas le Wrutte, John Rogerus, and William Bouche. Who say upon their oath that it is not to the prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants, etc. And they say that the aforesaid waste is holden of the Bishop of Chester by the service of 5*s.* by the year. And they say that the aforesaid third part of the waste aforesaid, to the aforesaid Prior and Convent so to be given and assigned, is worth by the year in all issues, according to the true value of the same, 40*d.* And they say that the aforesaid Prior and Convent have been accustomed to have common of pasture in the waste aforesaid, during a period of 200 years, by title of William, heretofore Bishop of Chester.

In witness, etc.

BARTHOLOMEW DE BURGHERSH.[1]

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Batholomew de Burghhersshe the elder.—*Westminster*, 13 *August*, 29 *Edw. III.* (1355).

Inquisition taken at Bucknall, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator, on Wednesday next before the Feast of All Saints (28 October, 1355): by the oath of Thomas Benet, John Phelippee, William de Stone, William le Cartewryth, Richard Jurdan, Thomas de Bokennale, John of the Grene, William son of Robert, John son of Henry, Henry de Leek, John Wolriche, and John Aleyn. Who say upon their oath that Bartholomew de Burghersshe the elder held of the King *in capite*, on the day of his death, two parts of the vill of Bokennale and the moiety of the vill of Fenton Kelvert (Culvard) in service, as of right and inheritance, of Elizabeth, late his wife, who it still surviving. And they say that the aforesaid two parts and moiety of the said vills are holden of the King as parcels of the Barony of Alveton. And they say that he held no other lands or tenements, on the day of his death, of the Lord the King *in capite*, nor of any other persons in demesne nor in service. And they say that the aforesaid two parts and moiety of the said vills are worth by the year in all issues £10. And they say that the said Bartholomew died on Thursday next before the Feast of St. James Apostle last past (23 July, 1355). And they say that Bartholomew de Burghersh, who is of full age, is the next heir of the aforesaid Bartholomew the elder.

In witness, etc.

JOHN DE MORF.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of John de Morf.—*Newcastle-upon-Tyne*, 3 *February*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

Inquisition made at Storton, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 11th February, 30 Edw. III.: by the oath of Richard de Enefeld, William Jonkys, John le Monk, Adam Monk, John le Wylde,

[1] See *D.N.B.* He had married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Theobald de Verdon.

John atte Spyttle, Philip le Walkere, William de la Hulle, Henry le Shepherde, Thomas Nyghtgale, William Baret, and Richard Payn. Who say upon their oath that John de Morf, deceased, did not hold any lands or tenements in the said County, in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite*, nor of any other person. But he held one messuage, two carucates of land, one acre of meadow, three acres of wood, one water-mill, 47*s.* 1½*d.*, in fee tail, to the same John and the heirs of the body of the same John begotten. Which same John has an heir from himself still living, and the said tenements are holden of Fulk de Burmyngham, by the service of 34*s.* by the year, and by foreign service. And they say that the said messuage is worth by the year 2*s.*, and the two carucates of land are worth 30*s.*, and the acre of meadow is worth 3*s.*, and the three acres of wood are worth 3*s.*, and the mill is worth nothing, because it is in a ruinous and dilapidated condition. And John held certain tenements of the King *in capite* by knight's service, in the County of Salop, the value of which tenements the Jurors know not.

And they say that the same John died on the 15th December last past (1355). And they say that Henry, son of the aforesaid John, is the next heir of the same John, and he was of the age of one year at the Feast of St. Michael last past.[1]

In witness, etc.

NICHOLAS DE LONGFORD.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Nicholas de Longeford.—*Westminster*, 15 *March*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

Inquisition made at Ethelaston (Ellaston), before John de Swynnerton, Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 24th April (1356): by the oath of John de Prestewode, William Bataill, John de Lughtburgh, William de Clounham, Henry de Denstone, Henry Snowe, Richard del Haseles, Richard de Berdmore, Henry de Lokwode, John de Walton, John Nudyon, and Roger del Forde. Who say upon their oath that Nicholas de Longeford, deceased, in the writ mentioned, held no lands nor tenements in

[1] *I.e.*, *b. c.* 29 September, 1354.

the County of Stafford of the King *in capite*, on the day of his death, in his demesne as of fee. But he held in fee tail, conjointly with Alicia his wife, who is still living, part of the vill of Ethelaston, and part of the vills of Stanton and Charnes, of the Bishop of Chester, with other lands and tenements in the County of Derby, by the service of two knights' fees, which same part of the said vill of Ethelaston, holden of the said Bishop, with Stanton and Charnes, are worth by the year in all issues, save the reprises, £10. And they say that he held on the day of his death part of the vill of Ethelaston, in fee tail, conjointly with Alicia his wife, who is still living, of the Baron of Stafford, of the fee of Morteyn, by the service of one knight's fee, which same part holden of the said Baron is worth by the year in all issues, save the reprises, 100*s*. And they say that he held part of the vill of Quixhill, in fee tail, conjointly with Alicia his wife, who is still living, by the service of the tenth part of one knight's fee, of the Honor of Chester, which same part is worth by the year in all issues, save the reprises, 13*s*. 4*d*.

And they say that the same Nicholas died on Monday next after the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary last past (28 February, 1356). And they say that Nicholas, son of the aforesaid Nicholas de Longeford, is the next heir of the same Nicholas de Longeford, and he is of the age of twenty-three years and more.

In witness, etc.

WOOTON-UNDER-WEEVER.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grants to John de Hayton, clerk, that he may retain to himself and his heirs, of the King and his heirs, by the services therefor due and accustomed, forever, the Manor of Wotton under Wevere, with appurtenances, which he (Hayton) acquired in fee of William de Ferrers,[1] who held it of the King *in capite*, without having obtained the King's licence thereto.—*Westminster*, 8 *April*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

[1] Son and heir of that daughter and co-heiress of Theobald de Verdon who married —— de Ferrers of Groby and brought him Wooton.

Inquisition made at Ethelaston (Ellaston), before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator, on the 24th April, 30 Edw. III. (1356): by the oath of John de Prestwod, William Bataill, Henry Snowe, John de Walton, John de Loughtborough, Henry de Denston, Richard del Hazelees, William de Clounham, Henry de Bradhed, Roger del Ford, John Nodyon, and Richard de Berdemor, who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King, etc. And they say that the aforesaid Manor is holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee, as parcel of the Barony of Alveton. And they say that the aforesaid Manor is worth by the year in all its issues, according to the true value of the same, 60*s*.

In witness, etc.

JOHN LE BLOUNT.—Settlement.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others, if the King grant to John de Crophull, Chivaler, and Margery his wife, that they may be able to grant that one messuage, two bovates and eighty acres of land, twenty acres of meadow, twenty acres of pasture, eighty acres of moor, and a rent of £9 13*s*. 4*d*. in Balterderley, Fenton Culvard, Rommessore, and Bidolf, which are holden of the King *in capite*, and which John le Blount of Sodynton holds for his life, of the inheritance of the same Margery, and which after the death of the same John le Blount ought to revert to the aforesaid Margery, and her heirs, shall after the death of the same John le Blount remain to John son of the same John le Blount and his heirs: to be holden of the King and his heirs, by the services therefor due and accustomed, for ever.—*Westminster*, 10 *April*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

Inquisition made at Tene, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 28th April, 30 Edw. III.: by the oath of Thomas de Grenewey, William de Clowenam, Robert de Chaumberleyn, Richard de Berdesmor, John de Saveny, Richard del Hazeles, William de Rydeware, Henry de Lokwode, Thomas Engelon, Roger de la Forde, Henry de Bradehed, and John de Louteburgh, who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor the prejudice of

the Lord the King, etc. And they say that the aforesaid land, meadow, pasture, moor, and rent, are holden of the King *in capite*, by knight's service as parcels of the Barony of Alveton. And the aforesaid messuage, land, meadow, pasture, and moor are worth in all issues 40*s*. And there remains to the same John and Margery, beyond the aforesaid messuage, land, meadow, pasture, moor, and rent the Manor of Webbeley with appurtenances, and it is worth in all issues, according to the true value of the same, £10. And that the said Manor is holden of the Lord the King *in capite*, by the service of one knight's fee.

In witness whereof.

WOLSTANTON.

Writ addressed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, to inquire whether or not it will be to the damage of the King, or any other person, if the King grants to William Gent, of Newcastle-under-Lyme, that he may have and retain to himself and his heirs fifty acres of land in Wolstanton which he acquired from Henry, Duke of Lancaster (who held them of the King *in capite*), without having obtained the King's licence.—10 *April*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

An Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Newcastle-under-Lyme on 26th April, 30 Edw. III.: by the oath of Stephen de Dymmesdale, Roger de Bromlegh, William Le Chamberlein, Richard Le Barker, Richard Le Bonetable, Adam de Prestbury, Richard Turbuk, Henry le Tailour, William Le Gray, Henry de Bettelegh, Thomas Raven, and Adam Le Barker, who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the King, etc.

And they say that the land is holden of the King *in capite* as parcel of the Manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme, which Manor is holden of the King *in capite*, as of the ancient demesne of the Crown. And the land is worth yearly 5*s*., viz., each acre is worth 6*d*. and no more.

In witness, etc.

LICHFIELD CHANTRY.

Writ addressed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, to inquire whether, or not, it will be to the damage of the King, or any other person, if the King grants to John de Blaby, parson of the Church of Gillyng, Simon de Blaby, Chaplain, and Richard Hawys, Chaplain, that they may give and assign one messuage and sixteen acres of land in Lichefield to Thomas de Stretton, Chaplain of the Chantry at the Altar of St. John the Baptist in the chapel of St. Mary of Lichefeld: to have and to hold to the same Thomas and his successors, Chaplains of the Chantry aforesaid, in aid of their support for ever, etc.—*Westminster*, 10 *May*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

An Inquisition made before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford at Lichefeld, the 15th June, 30 Edw. III.: by the oath of Hugh le Verer, Hugh de Gonston, Alan de Catton, John de Walton, John de Kynshale, Adam de Rydeware, John de Longedon, John de Glene, Thomas de Freforde, Ralph Wysman, William de Neuton, and William le Spouriur: who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the King, etc. And they say that the messuage and land are holden of the Lord Bishop of Chester by the service of rendering yearly 4*d.*, at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, for all services. And the messuage and land are worth yearly 5*s.* And the Bishop is mesne lord between the King and John, Simon, and Richard; and no other lands or tenements will remain to the same John, Simon, and Richard after the donation and assignment aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

ROGER HILLARY, CHIEF JUSTICE.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Roger Hillary.—*Westminster*, 6 *January*, 30 *Edw. III.* (*sic.*).

Inquisition taken at Walshale, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on 17th June, 30 Edw. III. (1356): by the oath of John Dymmok, William Dymmok, William de Hervyle, Richard de Wavere John le Cook of Pelshale, William Sweynes, Robert de Yolbrigg,

Henry le Bideles, Hugh le Ridere, Thomas le Bideles, Thomas Bamevill, and William le Rugacre. Who say upon their oath that Roger Hillary, deceased, held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite*, by Grand Serjeanty, one messuage, one virgate of land, ten acres of meadow, with appurtenances at Prestwode, in the Forest of Kynefare, and the wardship of the bailiwick of the King's Haye of Asshewode within the Forest aforesaid, by the service of finding one man to keep the bailiwick aforesaid. And the said tenements are worth by the year in all issues, save the reprises, 22*d.* And he held on the day of his death in his demesne as of fee 15 acres of land, of William Colesone in Russhale, by the service of rendering therefor by the year 7*s.* 4*d.*, and by knight's service; and the said land is worth by the year in all issues, save the reprises, 2*s.* 6*d.* And he held on the day of his death in his demesne as of fee, the Manor of Berkescote of Ralph Basset of Drayton; and he also held of the same Ralph one messuage and two carucates of land, 20 acres of meadow, four acres of wood, 20 acres of pasture with appurtenances in Bloxwych; and he also held of the same Ralph 20*s.* of rent issuing from divers free tenants at Gorscote, at the Feasts of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary and St. Michael. And he also held conjointly with Katherine his wife, who is still living, of the aforesaid Ralph, one messuage, one carucate of land, 20 acres of meadow, 3 acres of wood, 10 acres of pasture, and 10*s.* of rent issuing from the free tenants at Shelfield, at the same terms, to him and the said Katherine, and the heirs of the same Roger. All which tenements holden of the aforesaid Ralph are holden by the service of rendering yearly 2*d.* for all services; and they are holden of the same Ralph, as of his Manor of Walshale, and they are worth by the year in all issues beyond the reprise 10 marks. Also the same Roger held in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, the Manor of Alrewych, of Isabella, who was the wife of Roger de Stepilton, by knight's service, and rendering 3*s.* and four barbed arrow heads, and one pair of gloves, and it is worth by the year beyond the reprises 60*s.* Also he held of the same Isabella at Great Barre, one messuage, one carucate of land, 10 acres of meadow, 22 acres of wood, by the service of 11*s.* by the year

and by knight's service, worth beyond the reprises 6*s.* 8*d.* Also at Pirie and Hamstede, one messuage, the moiety of one carucate of land, 10 acres of meadow, 4 acres of wood, 10 acres of pasture, and 20*s.* of rent, issuing from the free tenants to be taken yearly at the aforesaid Feasts, of Philip de Pirye, by the service of one penny by the year for all things, worth beyond the reprise 40*s.* Also at Bromwych to him and the aforesaid Katherine conjointly, and to the heirs of the same Roger, two messuages, 20 acres of land, three acres of meadow, 2 acres of pasture, 10*s.* of rent to be taken yearly at the Feasts aforesaid, of John le Alrewas and Alianora his wife, as of right of the same Alianora, by knight's service and rendering by the year 5*s.* 10*d.*, worth save the reprises 20*s.*, and he held there, conjointly with Katherine in the form aforesaid, one messuage, 12 acres of land, 2 acres of meadow, of William Devrous, by the service of 12*d.* for all things, worth beyond the reprise 6*s.* 8*d.* Also at Esynton, of John de Sutton of Duddeleye as of the Barony of Duddeleye, one messuage, 2 carucates of land, 10 acres of meadow, 10 acres of wood, by the service of one red rose, worth beyond the reprise 40*s.* Also at Whitesiche, one messuage, one carucate of land, of the Dean of Wolverhampton, by the service of one white rose by the year, for all things, worth beyond the reprise 20*s.* Also the Manor of Fissherwyke of the Bishop of Chester by knight's service, worth beyond the reprise 60*s.* Also at Wednesbury, of John de Herunvill, one messuage, one water-mill, two carucates of land, 10 acres of meadow, 10*s.* of rent issuing from divers free tenants, at the Feasts aforesaid, by the service of one penny for all services, worth beyond the reprise 40*s.* Also at Seisdon, Overpenne, Tresele, and Womborne, one messuage, 10*s.* of rent, issuing from divers free tenants at the Feasts within written, of John de Sutton of Duddeleye, as of the Barony of Duddeleye, by the service of one white rose, worth beyond the reprises 20*s.* 6*d.* Also at Alrewas and Whychenore, 8 acres of meadow, of Mistress Joan ap Griffith by the service of 40*d.*, worth beyond the reprises 6*s.* Also at Huntyndon, of Henry son of Thomas de Pilatenhale, one cottage by the service of one white rose, worth beyond the reprise 6*d.* Also at Tibynton (Tipton), 9*s.* of rent, issuing from divers free tenants to be taken at the Feast

within written, of Nicholas Burnel, by the service of one white rose for all things, worth beyond the reprise 9*s.* Also at Little Barre, one virgate of land, of Richard le Barre, by the service of one grain of cumin for all things, worth beyond the reprise 40*d.* Also at Honesworth, 10 acres of meadow of Master John Buttetourt, by the service of one penny by the year for all things, and they are worth by the year beyond the reprise 40*d.*

And they say that the aforesaid Roger Hillary died on 1st June last past (1356), and that Roger son of the aforesaid Roger Hillary is his next heir, and he is of the age of 24 years.

In witness, etc.

ELISABETH, COUNTESS OF NORTHAMPTON.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* on the death of Elisabeth, Countess of Northampton.—*Westminster*, 14 *June*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

Inquisition made at Arleye before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 1st July, 30 Edw. III.: by the oath of Adam de la Hulle, Robert de la Hulle, Henry de Gerves, John de la Hulle, John le Gode, Richard de Wereward, Henry de la Hulle, William le Gylde, John de Fynchesleye, Richard Tugge, Thomas le Hunte and Henry Aylward: who say upon their oath that Elizabeth, who was the wife of William, Earl of Northampton, and heretofore wife of Edmund de Mortimer, held no lands nor tenements in dower, in the County of Stafford, on the day of her death. But they say that the same Elizabeth held on the said day of her death, for term of life, of the inheritance of the aforesaid Edmund, heretofore her husband, in the said County of Stafford, the Manor of Arleye, of the King *in capite* by knight's service; which same Manor is worth by the year in all issues, save the reprises, £20. And they say that the same Elizabeth died on Wednesday on the Morrow of the Ascension of our Lord last past (1 June, 1356). And they say that Roger, son of the aforesaid Edmund de Mortimer, is the next heir of the aforesaid Elizabeth, and is of the age of twenty-five years and more.

In witness, etc.

KATHERINE DE BIRMINGHAM.—Proof of Age.

Mandate directed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, stating that William de Bermyngham, who married Katherine, one of the daughters and heirs of William de la Plauncke, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, alleges that the same Katherine is of full age; and he has petitioned that the King would order the lands and tenements to be given up to her which are of the inheritance of the same Katherine, and in the custody of the Executors of the will of Roger Hillary now deceased, to whom the King committed the wardship of the lands and tenements which were of the aforesaid William: to have until the lawful age of the heirs of the same William de la Plauncke. The King wills therefore that the same Katherine, who was born at Berssecote (Bescot), and baptized in the Church of Walshale, as it is said, shall prove her age before the same Escheator. The Escheator is therefore commanded, etc.—*Westminster*, 14 *June*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

The Proof of Age of Katherine, one of the daughters and heirs of William atte Plaunke, deceased, who held of the King *in capite*, whom William de Birmyngeham took to wife; taken before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Enefeld on the 3rd July, 30 Edw. III.: by the oaths of the underwritten:—

William Burnel, of the age of 50 years, sworn and diligently examined touching the age of the aforesaid Katherine, says, that the same Katherine was of the age of 15 years and more on the Feast of the Epiphany last past, because she was born at Berscote and baptized in the Church of Walshale in the said Feast of the Epiphany, in 14 Edw. III. (6 January, 1340). He being asked how he knows this, he says that on the said day of the birth of the aforesaid Katherine he announced the birth to Thomas then Abbot of Hales, and that he should come there to be godfather to the said Katherine; and therefore he well recollects that she is of full age.

Thomas de Morf, of the age of 54 years, sworn, says, that on the said day of the birth of the said Katherine he was in the service of the aforesaid William atte Plaunke, father of the aforesaid Katherine, and announced her birth to him; and therefore the birth aforesaid sufficiently recurs to his memory.

Roger atte Mere and Richard le Mareschal, of the age of 53 years, sworn, say, that John, the eldest born son of the aforesaid Roger, was born on the same day as the same Katherine, which was the cause of his being reputed, up to the present time, coetaneous with the same Katherine: through which circumstance they well recollect the age aforesaid.

Philip le Roo and William Emmesone, of the age of 60 years, sworn, say, that on the said day of the birth of the said Katherine they were present and then saw the said Katherine at the Church of Walshale, and saw her there baptized, and from thence carried back into the Manor of Berscote with singers and a large concourse of people praising God for the birth of the aforesaid Katherine: by which they sufficiently manifest the truth that she is of full age.

William Baret, Roger de Kent, and John Bagard, of the age of 62 years, sworn, say, that Joan, wife of the aforesaid William, was nurse to the aforesaid Katherine immediately after her birth: through which they well recollect that the same Katherine is of full age.

Henry Phylippes, Henry Jurdan, and William son of Simon, of the age of 55 years, sworn, say, that on the same day on which the said Katherine was born they were at Walshale before the Coroner for a certain misfortune which there happened: through which they well recollect that she is of full age. And they say that the said Katherine is married to William son of Fulk de Birmyngham by licence of the King.

In witness, etc.

And I made known to Roger Hillary, one of the Executors of Roger Hillary, at Berscote, by Thomas de Fililode and William Burnel, that he might be at Enefeld to show if he had any reason to urge on his account, why the same lands and tenements should not be given up to the same Katherine, who is of full age: which same Roger, one of the Executors, did not, nor did any of the other Executors care to come to the same proof.

WILLIAM DE LA PLAUNKE.

Mandate directed to John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, stating that whereas it

is shown by an Inquisition, taken by the King's mandate, and returned into the King's Chancery, after the death of William de la Plaunke who held of the King *in capite*, that Katherine, one of the daughters of the same William, who is still living, and Joan, the other of the daughters of the same William, who is now deceased, as it is said, at that time were the next heirs of the same William; and that Elizabeth, who was the wife of the aforesaid William, at that time was pregnant. The King wishes to be certified whether or not the aforesaid Elizabeth has brought into the world the child wherewith she was pregnant at the time of the death of William her husband, and if she has, then whether it be a male or female child, and of what age it is, and whether or not the aforesaid Joan is dead as is afore said, and if so then on what day and where.

The Escheator is commanded, etc.—*Westminster*, 14 *June*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

Inquisition made at Enefeld, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 3rd July, 30 Edw. III.: by the oath of William Burnel, Thomas de Morf, Roger atte Mere, Richard Mareschal, Philip le Roe, William le Bunnescone, William Baret, Roger de Kent, John Bagard, Henry Philipp, Henry Jurdan, and William son of Simon. Who say upon their oath that Elizabeth, who was the wife of William de la Plaunke, has brought forth the offspring wherewith she was pregnant at the time of the death of the aforesaid William her husband, viz., a daughter called Elizabeth, who is still living, and is of the age of nine years. And they say that Joan, one of the daughters of the aforesaid William, died in the Octaves of St. John the Baptist at Bescote in the 23 Edw. III. (1 July, 1349). And they say that the said Elizabeth is married to John son of Fulk de Burmyngham with the King's licence.

In witness, etc.

REES AP GRIFFITH.

Writ of *Diem clausit extremum* upon the death of Resus ap Griffith the elder.—*Westminster*, 18 *May*, 30 *Edw. III.* (1356).

Inquisition taken at Alrewas, before John de Swynnerton, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the

20th January, 30 Edw. III. (1357): by the oath of Adam de Alrewas, John Fraunceis, John Eliot, Thomas Alewyn, Richard le Coupere, John Hubert the elder, Henry Fraunceis, John Faleyn, William Swan, Henry Heryng, John Hubert the younger, and John de Oxleye. Who say upon their oath that Resus ap Gruffuth, the elder, deceased, in the writ mentioned, did not hold any lands or tenements in his demesne as of fee, on the day of his death, of the King *in capite*. But he held the Manor of Alrewas of the King *in capite*, conjointly with Joan his wife, who is still living, by a fine levied thereof in the Court of the King. Which Manor Resus held by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee, and he renders therefor by the year at the Exchequer of the King, by the hands of the Sheriff, £15, at the terms of St. Michael and Easter, by equal portions. And the Manor is worth by the year, beyond the reprises, in all issues, 100*s*.

And Resus held on the day of his death the Manor of Whichenovere, conjointly with Joan his wife, who is still living, by a fine levied thereof in the Court of the King, of the Duke of Lancaster, by the service of two small fees of Morteyn. Which Manor of Whichenovere is worth in all issues, save the reprises, ten marks.

And Resus held on the said day of his death the Manor of Briddeshull, with Tunstal and Neubolt, its hamlets, conjointly with Joan his wife, who is still living, by a fine levied thereof in the Court of the King, of the Duke of Lancaster by the service of the fourth part of one knight's fee. Which Manor of Briddeshull with Tunstall and Neubolt is worth, save the reprises, £10.

And Resus held on the said day of his death the Manor of Tatenhull, conjointly with Joan his wife as before, of the Duke of Lancaster by the service of rendering therefor yearly one sparrow hawk at the Feast of St. Michael for all services. And that the said Manor of Tatenhull is worth in all issues, save the reprises, 60*s*.

And they say that the same Resus died on the 10th May last past (1356). And they say that Resus, son of the aforesaid Resus the elder, is his next heir, and he is of the age of thirty years.

In witness, etc.

ASHWOOD HAY.

Writ of *Ad quod damnum* to inquire if it be to the damage or prejudice of the King or of others if the King grants to John de Sutton of Duddeleye, Chivaler, that he may be able to give and grant to Roger Hillary one messuage, twenty-eight acres of land, fourteen acres of meadow, four acres of pasture, four acres of wood, a rent of 3*s.* 4*d.*, and the bailiwick of keeping the haye of Asschewode with appurtenances in Kyngesswynford, which are holden of the King *in capite*: To have and to hold to the same Roger and the heirs which the same Roger shall beget upon the body of Margaret his wife.[1] Also that if the same Roger shall die without any heir begotten upon the body of the aforesaid Margaret, the messuage, etc., shall entirely revert to the aforesaid John and his heirs: To be holden of the King and his heirs, by the services aforesaid for ever.—*Westminster, 6 October, 31 Edw. III.* (1357).

Inquisition made at Kynfare, before Henry de Prestwode, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Tuesday next after the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, 31 Edw. III. (9 Jan. 1358): by the oath of William Dymmok, William Corbyn, Roger atte Wodehous, John de Prestwode, Philip de Bobynton, John de Morf, Reginald Jones, Roger de Kyngeleye, Thomas Buffry, Roger Buffry, John Colesone, and William son of Hugh, who say upon their oath that it is not to the damage nor to the prejudice of the King, etc.

And they say that the aforesaid messuage, land, meadow, pasture, wood, and rent aforesaid are holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of keeping the bailiwick of the Haye aforesaid, and the messuage, land, meadow, wood and pasture, rent and bailiwick are worth by the year in all issues, according to the true value of the same, 20*s.* And there remain to the aforesaid John de Sutton, beyond the messuage, etc., aforesaid, one hundred librates of land and rent, viz., at Duddeleye which is in the County of Worcester at the Castle of Duddeleye and Seggesleye, which are in the County of Stafford, and they are holden of the King *in capite*, by the service of one knight's fee.

In witness, etc.

[1] Daughter and ultimately co-heiress of James, Lord Audley of Heley. She died without issue long after her husband.

COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF PENKRIDGE.

Writ addressed to Philip de Lutteleye, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, to inquire whether or not it will be to the damage of the King or any other person if the King grants to William de Shareshull that he may give and assign one acre of land in Shareshull to Master John Marreys, Prebendary of the Prebend of Shareshull in the Collegiate Church of Penkrick, to have and to hold to him and his successors, Prebendaries of the said Prebend, forever in exchange for one acre of land in the same vill of Shareshull to be given, by the said John, to the aforesaid William, to hold to the same William and his heirs forever in exchange as aforesaid.—*Westminster*, 21 *March*, 37 *Edw. III.* (1363).

An Inquisition taken at Shareshull, before Philip de Lutteleye, the Escheator in the County of Stafford, on Monday next before the close of Easter, 37 Edw. III.: by the oath of Richard de Wirleye, William del Put, John le Cok of Sardon, William Bysshop, Adam de Fetherston, John O' the Hull, John Jankyns, William Osbern, William de Gorstecote, John Colier, John de Graseleye, and William de Tounnes, who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the King, etc.

And they say that the said acre of land is holden of Ralph, Earl of Stafford, by knight's service, viz., the thousandth part of one knight's fee; and the same Earl likewise holds it of the King by the like service; and the aforesaid acre of land, to be given and granted by the aforesaid Prebendary to the said William, is holden of the same William in frank almoigne, viz., by the service of doing fealty for all secular service; and the said William likewise holds it of the said Earl, by the service of the thousandth part of one knight's fee; and the same Earl likewise holds it of the King by the like service. And there are no mesne lords between the Lord the King and the aforesaid Prebendary and William for the two acres above mentioned. And the said acre of land, to be given and granted by the same William to the said Prebendary, is worth yearly 4*d.* And the acre of land, to be given and granted by the said Prebendary to the same William, is worth yearly 4*d.*

In witness, etc.

WALSALL CHURCH.

Writ addressed to Philip de Lutteleye, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, to inquire whether or not, etc., if the King grant to John de Beverleye and William Colsone of Walshale that they may give four messuages, one carucate of land, twenty acres of meadow, and six acres of pasture in Walsale and Rushale to a certain chaplain performing Divine service daily in the church of Walsale, according to the ordinance of the same John and William in that behalf to be made, etc.—*Westminster*, 20 *May*, 39 *Edw. III.* (1365).

An Inquisition taken at Walshale before Philip de Lutteleye, the King's Escheator in the County of Stafford, on the 30th July, 39 Edw. III.: by the oath of Thomas de Teddesleye, John le Cok of Pelsale, Richard Daukys, John Roberdes of Shenston, Richard Tandy, Robert Thikebrom, John Thomassone, Thomas Barneville, Adam Wynd, Thomas Sprot, Robert Roberdessone, and Robert Le Mulneward: who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the King, etc. And they say that the four messuages are holden of Ralph Basset of Drayton by knight's service, and the carucate of land is holden of the same Ralph Basset by knight's service; and the twenty acres of meadow are holden of William de Walshale by the service of 12*d.* of yearly rent, and the six acres of pasture are holden of the same William by the service of three pence of yearly rent; and the four messuages are worth yearly in all issues 2*s.* beyond reprises; and the carucate of land is worth yearly 20*s.*; and the twenty acres of meadow are worth yearly 10*s.*; and the six acres of pasture are worth yearly 2*s.* 6*d.* And of the four messuages and carucate of land the said Ralph Basset is mesne lord between the King and the aforesaid John and William; and of the twenty acres of meadow and the six acres of pasture John de Walsale, Fulk de Burmyngham, and the Lord of Duddeleye are the mesne lords between the King and the aforesaid William de Walsale. And there will remain to the aforesaid John, beyond the donation aforesaid, lands and tenements in the County worth yearly £20, which are holden of the King by knight's service; and to William will remain beyond the donation lands and tenements worth yearly £10 in the afore-

said County, which are holden of Ralph Basset by knight's service. And the lands and tenements remaining to the same John and William are sufficient, etc.

In witness, etc.

CALWICH PRIORY.

Writ addressed to Philip de Lutteleye, Escheator in the County of Stafford, to inquire whether or not it will be to the damage, etc., if the King grant to the Prior and Convent of Colwych that they may be able to charge all their lands and tenements in Colwych (Calwich), Stanton, and Ramesore, in the County of Stafford, with 60*s.*, for the Prior and Convent of Kenylworth and their successors, to be rendered annually at the Feast of St. Matthew, so that if the rent shall be in arrear it shall be lawful to the said Prior and Convent of Kenylworth to distrain for the rent on the lands and tenements.—*Westminster*, 6 *May*, 40 *Edw. III.* (1366).

An Inquisition made before Philip de Lutteleye, Escheator in the County of Stafford, at Uttoxhather, on Tuesday in Pentecost week, 40 Edw. III.: by the oath of Ralph Le Parker, Ralph de Hampton, Ralph Le Smith, John atte Pyrie, William Baxter, John Baxter, Roger de Fulford, William in Le Hurne, Adam de Warylowe, Robert de Granleye, William Bocher, and John de Weston: who say upon their oath that it will not be to the damage of the King, etc. And they say that the aforesaid lands and tenements are holden of the Lord Nicholas de Longeford in pure and perpetual alms. And that Nicholas de Longeford is mesne lord between the King and the Prior of Colwych for the lands and tenements aforesaid.

In witness, etc.

NOTES ON THE MANORS OF ASTON AND WALTON, NEAR STONE,

IN THE

THIRTEENTH AND FOURTEENTH CENTURIES A.D

BY

CHARLES G. O. BRIDGEMAN,

Barrister-at-Law.

NOTES ON THE MANORS OF ASTON AND WALTON, NEAR STONE,

IN THE

THIRTEENTH AND FOURTEENTH CENTURIES A.D.

THE devolution in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries of the manor of Aston (near Stone), with which is intimately connected that of the neighbouring manor of Walton, has given rise to various problems, upon which much light has recently been thrown by the Rev. F. P. Parker's valuable notes to Walter Chetwynd's "History of Pirehill Hundred" (Vol. XII, New Series, of the Staffordshire Historical Collections of the Society, pp. 111 to 119), and also by the pedigree of the lords of Aston and Walton by Stone given by our Honorary Secretary, Mr. Wedgwood, in his Notes to the Staffordshire Cartulary (at pp. 420, 421 of the Volume for the year 1911). But it has been thought that the subject might usefully receive further elucidation from a more detailed consideration of the various entries bearing upon this subject in the Plea Rolls and other records now so happily available to members of our Society, mainly through the indefatigable labours of the late General Wrottesley, and at the Honorary Secretary's request I have undertaken to write this paper in the hope that it may afford yet another guide-post to future inquirers on the same path, although I cannot pretend to any special qualifications for the task beyond those derived from a somewhat protracted study of the transcripts of these entries and such knowledge of the old law of England on the subject of land tenure as I have acquired professionally.

Starting then from the returns in the *Liber Niger*, A.D. 1166, we find that Robert Fitz Payne then held under Robert de Stafford two knights' fees, *viz.*, one fee held by himself in his demesne, which General Wrottesley has identified as Aston and part of Stoke, and the other fee held of him, half by Nicholas

de Stoke, identified as Tittensor and part of Stoke, and half by Nicholas de Werleston, identified as Burston and the name corrected to Nicholas de Berleston (*Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. I, pp. 149, 173). This Robert Fitz Payne appears to have been the second consecutive lord of Aston of that name, and to have been succeeded by a son also bearing the same name, who was living in 1205 (N.S., Vol. XII, p. 116, note), and it must have been this last Robert Fitz Payne who had a wife of the name of Sibil (Vol. III, p. 32, *cf.* pp. 33 and 129).

In his Notes to the *Liber Niger* (*Ib.*, p. 173) General Wrottesley goes on to state that Robert de Aston, son of Robert Fitz Payne, (*i.e.* the third and last Robert Fitz Payne of Aston and Stoke), appears to have left two daughters, coheiresses, Agnes and Petronilla, married to Robert Marshall and Geoffrey de Walton, for which statement he cites Feet of Fines, Stafford, 20 Henry III. (1236), since extracted (Vol. IV, pp. 232–3) and referring to land in Blakelowe. This fine certainly does suggest that there were only two coheiresses, and the same inference might naturally be drawn from an entry on a Plea Roll of 17 and 18 Henry III. (1233), in which Robert son of Ivo appears as suing Agnes and Petronilla, daughters of Robert Fitz Payne, in a plea of land (Vol. IV, p. 83); and this will account for Mr. Parker adopting the same view in his Notes to Chetwynd's "History of Pirehill Hundred" (N.S., Vol. XII, p. 116). Nevertheless, I have come to the unhesitating conclusion, from the various other extracts from the Plea Rolls and other evidence which will be given hereafter, that there must have been *three* coheiresses and not two, and that the third coheiress was in 1233 represented by the plaintiff, Robert son of Ivo (de Walton); and I may here point out that this is quite consistent with the Plea Roll of 1233, whilst the fine of 1236 should be compared with a later fine of 1306 (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 66–7) more particularly referred to below (p. 196), which apparently deals with the same land at Blakelowe, and which shows clearly that Robert le Marshall's share of the manor of Aston was *one third* and not one half. I may add that the conclusion which I have drawn on this point, although arrived at independently, is fortified by the pedigree given by Mr. Wedgwood in the Volume for 1911 at p. 421.

The *Testa de Nevill* (A.D. 1242–3) states that the Prior of Stones (Stone) and Robert Mareschall held two knights' fees of the Barony of Stafford in Eston, Burweston and Stanes (Vol. I, p. 179; N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 394). But this statement was clearly not exhaustive, and Robert Mareschall must have been here given as representing not only himself in right of his wife Agnes but also the other coheirs. See accordingly the second and somewhat fuller Return of Fees and Tenants, A.D. 1243, where Robert Mareschall "and partners" are mentioned as holding fees in Aston, Boreweston, and Stanes (N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 397).

The next proceedings to which it is necessary to call attention are two suits on the *Curia Regis* Roll of 34 and 35 Henry. III. (1250), when we find the Dean and Chapter of St. Mary of Stafford suing Richard Rouland and Emma his wife for eight acres in Whytegrave (Vol. IV, p. 118), and the same Dean and Chapter suing Richard de Venables and Joan his wife for forty acres of land in Whytegrave, and Robert Mareschall for twenty-six and a half acres and Geoffrey de Waleton and Petronilla his wife for twenty-six and a half acres in the same vill (*Ib.*, p. 119): and another suit on the *Curia Regis* Roll of 35 and 36 Henry III. (1251), in which the same Dean and Chapter sued Robert le Mareschall for twenty-acres in Hundreacre [*sic*], and sued Richard de Venables and Joan his wife for thirty-three [not twenty-three] acres in Hundredesacre [*sic*] and Geoffrey de Walton and Petronilla his wife for twenty acres in the same vill (*Ib.*, p. 122).

It was doubtless these entries which led Mr. Wedgwood to give in his pedigree (N.S., Vol. 1911, 421) Joan the wife of *Richard* de Venables as the third Fitz Payne coheiress. This I believe to be a mistake, for the extracts from the Plea Rolls and other records referred to below lead to the almost inevitable conclusion that the third coheiress was the mother of Robert son of Ivo, the plaintiff in the suit of 1233, and that she was represented in 1250 and 1251 by her granddaughter Joan, then the wife of *Thomas* de Venables, and afterwards the wife of Roger de Pulesdon. I had thought it possible that there might have been a clerical error in transcribing the extracts from the Plea Rolls, in which Richard is the name given as Joan's husband (Vol. IV, pp. 119, 122). But on referring to the original Rolls I found that the extracts

from the Roll of 1250 (*Ib.*, p. 119) is correctly transcribed, though the reference should be to the *dorse* of membrane 13, but the name "Richard" is written over an erasure, and the entry contains the words "also Richard Roland and Emma his wife for seven acres in the same vill" struck out by a line running through them just before the words "as the right of their church," whilst the entry on the Roll of 1251 (*Ib.*, p. 122) is correctly transcribed and there is no erasure in it. It will be noticed that at the top of the same page (p. 122) two extracts are given from membrane 1 of the same Roll, in which Joan the wife of *Thomas* de Venables and Thomas son of Richard de Venables put in their respective places Richard de Venables *versus* Robert le Mareschall in a plea of land, and I would suggest as a possible explanation of the two entries in which "Richard" is the name given as Joan's husband, that Thomas de Venables and Joan his wife were then both children, and that Richard de Venables (the father of Thomas) had taken possession of the land on behalf of his son and daughter-in-law, who had "put him in their place," as they had done in the suit against Robert le Mareschall, and that this led to a correction (though not a very accurate one) of the Roll of 1250, which was followed in the Roll of 1251. But, whether this be the true explanation or not, I think it is clear that at this time Joan the wife of *Thomas* de Venables represented the third Fitz Payne coheiress, who was probably her grandmother and the wife of her grandfather Ivo de Walton, the other coheiresses being or being then represented by Robert le Mareshall (in right of his deceased wife Agnes) and Petronilla the wife of Geoffrey de Walton.

In the *Curia Regis* Roll of 38 Henry III. (April, 1254) we find Thomas de Venables and Joan his wife suing Robert Mareschall for waste and destruction in the lands, houses, and gardens, etc., which the said Robert holds in custody of the said Joan in Aston (Vol. IV, p. 132). Thomas and Joan were at this time probably both minors, and Robert le Mareschall may perhaps have been in actual possession of the manorial residence at Aston in right of his deceased wife Agnes, as the senior representative of the coheirs who was then *sui juris*.

From the *Curia Regis* Roll of 40 Henry III. (November,

1255) we find that Emma, the widow of Richard Rolaund, sued Robert le Mareschall for half a virgate of land in Eston (Aston), and half a virgate in Bureweston (Burston), her reasonable dower which she had of the gift of Robert de Winton [*qu.* should be Wauton, *i.e.* Walton? *Cf.* Vol. IV, p. 249] her second husband, and in which Robert had no ingress except through Richard Rolaund her third husband; and she sued the same Robert for an acre of pasture in Dorlaweston as her dower by another writ *de ingressu*. The same Emma sued Thomas de Venables and Joan his wife for twelve acres of land in the same vill (Vol. IV, p. 133). The plaintiff in these suits, Emma the widow of Richard Rolaund, had been married three times, *viz.*, (1) to Henry [de Wiverston] son of Dionysia [de Darlaston], (2) to Robert son of Ivo de Walton, and (3) to Richard Rolaund. Her second husband was Joan's father; she herself must have been either Joan's mother or her stepmother, and the fact that she claimed dower out of her second husband's lands in Aston and Burston points to the conclusion that he owned them in his own right and not in right of any former wife of his.

In February 1256 a fine was levied by Emma widow of Richard Roulant, by which she remitted in favour of Robert le Mareschall her claim to dower out of forty acres of land and an acre of pasture in Derlaston, which she claimed of the gift of Henry son of Dionysia her first husband, and out of half a virgate and ten acres of land in Eston and half a virgate in Boreweston, which she claimed of the gift of Robert de Wauton [*i.e.* Walton] her second husband (Vol. IV, pp. 248, 249).

On the Assize Roll of 36 Henry III. (1272) Thomas de Venables' name appears as a juror of the Hundred of Pirehill (Vol. IV, p. 208), and so far as I am aware this is the last mention we have of him.

Three years later, in 1275, Joan was married to her second husband, Roger de Pulesdon; for in that year Roger son of Jordan de Pyvelesdon levied a fine of three carucates of land and twenty-two and a half marcates rent in Aston, Burweston, Stoke, Wyllanescroft, Levedalle, Chatewelle, Waleton, and Burton in favour of Roger de Pyvelesdon and Joan his wife (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 28, 29). This accounts for the statement

in *Kirkby's Quest* (*c.* 1284–5) that Roger de Pyveslesdon, Robert Mareschellus, and Gilbert de Aston held one knight's fee of Nicolas, Baron of Stafford, in Aston and Burceston (Vol. I, p. 173). This mention in *Kirkby's Quest* of Roger de Pulesdon as one of the joint holders would be unintelligible upon the hypothesis that the third Fitz Payne coheiress was the wife of *Richard* de Venables, for in that case on the death of their son Thomas de Venables the lands would have descended to William the son of Thomas, and Roger de Pulesdon the second husband of Thomas's widow would have had no interest whatever in them.

We come next to an important series of suits in the years 1285 to 1287, relating to lands which had belonged to John de Swynnerton, lord of Swynnerton, who died without issue in 1284, leaving a widow Muriel; and here some few words by way of preliminary statement seem desirable. This John de Swynnerton, who was the last lord of Swynnerton in the direct line (Vol. VII, Part II, p. 12), made a settlement of his estates in his lifetime upon Roger son of Stephen de Uselwall (or Isewell), who was probably the heir male of the Swynnertons and descended from the Robert FitzAelen mentioned in the *Liber Niger*, lord of Swynnerton 1158 to 1189, as the common ancestor. The Rev. Charles Swynnerton, F.S.A., in his interesting paper on the earlier Swynnertons of Eccleshall (N.S., Vol. III, pp. 73 *et seq.*), to which I am in large measure indebted for the Swynnerton part of the pedigree which accompanies this paper, gives strong reasons for supposing that this Roger's great-grandfather John de Swynnerton, lord of Little Sugnell and Dorslow in right of his wife Petronilla, was a younger son of the Robert FitzAelen of the *Liber Niger* and brother of the Robert de Swynnerton lord of Swynnerton who died in or about 1224; but, if so, I think he must have been his half-brother only. If he had been of the whole blood, his descendant would probably have been heir-at-law of the John de Swynnerton, lord of Swynnerton, who died in 1284. But it is clear from what follows that this was not the case.

In Midsummer term, 13 Edward I. (1285), Roger de Pywelesdon and Joan his wife, John de Whytemore, Adam son of William de Alsacher, Robert le Mareschal, and Gilbert son of

Geoffrey de Aston sued Roger son of Stephen de Uselwall for half the manor of Swynnerton (excepting 160 acres of wood in the said manor) and for two parts of 14 messuages and 5 virgates of land with appurtenances (excepting 20 acres of wood) and 50*s.* of rent in Beche, of which John de Swynnerton their kinsman, whose heirs they are, was seised in demesne as of fee when he died. Roger denied that John de Swynnerton died seised of the tenements in question, because long before his death he had given the said tenements to him (Roger) and had made Philip de Mutton his attorney to put him into seisin of them. There were various adjournments of this suit through defect of juries, and it does not appear that any verdict was given (Vol. VI, Part I, p. 160). Probably the suit was compromised by the fine of 1288 mentioned below. Why the claim was in respect of *half* the manor only I do not know, but probably the widow had some interest under the settlement.[1]

In the same term the same plaintiffs sued the same defendant and Muriel the widow of John de Swynnerton for 180 acres of wood in Swynnerton and Beche. A similar defence was put in, and after several adjournments a verdict was given in the following year in favour of Roger and Muriel on the ground that they were in good seisin of the tenements during the lifetime of John, and the plaintiffs were amerced for a false claim (*Ib.*, pp. 160, 164). The lands claimed in this suit would be the 160 acres in Swynnerton and the 20 acres in Beche excepted from the first suit.

[1] In this passage the word "moiety" must, I think, be used in a somewhat loose sense, as meaning a part, or one of two parts, and not necessarily an equal half part. I have noticed elsewhere other passages where this seems to be the only possible explanation; *e.g.*, in the inquisition taken on the death of Sir Hugh de Weston in 1305, where the jurors state that he held the manor of Weston and a *moiety* of the vill of Newton of the heir of Richard Fitzalan (N.S., Vol. II, p. 29; Vol. 1911, p. 281), which I can only explain by supposing the other moiety to be either the lands, etc., in Newton previously alienated by his father, Sir Hugh de Weston, in 1257 in favour of the Prior of St. Thomas near Stafford (Vol. VIII, Part I, pp. 145, 146), or else that part of the hamlet of Bold (Booth) within the township of Newton which was held, not of the FitzAlan Earls of Arundel, but of the fee of Chartley (N.S., Vol. XII, p. 176). See also the fine levied of a *moiety* of the manor of Walton by William de Venables in 1331, referred to hereafter, pp. 205–6.

In Michaelmas term, 14 Edward I. (1286), the Sheriff was ordered to take with him four discreet and lawful knights of his county and *in propria persona* to proceed to the Court of Edmund the king's brother at Newcastle-under-Lyme, and in full Court there to cause to be recorded the suit, which was in the Court by the King's writ between John de Wytemore, Adam son of William de Allesager, Roger de Pyveslesdon and Joan his wife, Robert de Mareschal, and Gilbert son of Geoffrey de Aston, plaintiffs, and Roger son of Stephen de Uselewall, tenant, of 4 messuages and 4 bovates of land with appurtenances in Great Chelle, and in which the said Roger son of Stephen complained a false judgment had been given (*Ib.*, p. 166). In Hilary term of the next year (1287), owing to the default of appearance by Roger son of Stephen de Useleswall, his suit, *i.e.* on the writ of false judgment, was dismissed (*Ib.*, p. 168).

In Michaelmas term, 16 Edward I. (1288), Roger son of Stephen de Swynemerton (Swynnerton) gave 40*s.* for licence of concord with Roger de Pyvelesdon and Joan his wife, and they have a chirograph (*i.e.* the official record of the final concord which is given out to the party in whose favour a fine is levied to hold as a document of title) (*Ib.*, p. 181). By this fine, which was levied on the 27th October 1288 in respect of the *ninth* part of the manor of Swynnerton, Beche and Chelle, Roger de Pywelesdon and Juliana (doubtless a mistake for Johanna or Joan) his wife acknowledged these tenements to belong to Roger son of Stephen de Swynnerton, and remitted their claim to them in his favour (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 42, 43). Probably this fine was a compromise and final settlement of all the suits then pending between them, and it deals with Chelle as well as Swynnerton and Beche.

Of the five plaintiffs, or rather sets of plaintiffs, who concurred in the above-mentioned suits, three, *viz.*, Roger and Joan de Pulesdon, Robert le Mareschall, and Gilbert son of Geoffrey de Aston, obviously represented the three Fitz Payne coheirs, and the fact that the Pulesdons claimed in respect of one-*ninth* share of the manor of Swynnerton makes it reasonably certain that Robert le Mareschall and Gilbert de Aston also each claimed in respect of one-ninth, and that the remaining plaintiffs, *viz.*, John de Whitmore and Adam son of William de

Alsager, each claimed in respect of one-third share. Of the Alsager pedigree I know nothing. There was a Randle de Alsacher who witnessed a deed of confirmation by Henry de Audley of his father's grant of a third part of Chelle to Robert Blund *circa* 1210 (N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 444). According to Ormerod (*History of Cheshire*, iii, pp. 321, 322) there was an Adam de Alsacher son of Julian or Gilian de Alsacher, whose sons Thomas and Randle held lands in Alsager in 26, 27 and 31 Edward I. (1290, 1299 and 1303), and he may have been the claimant to the share of the Swynnerton estates in 1285. But Ormerod does not mention the name of his father, if Julian was his mother's name, nor throw any light upon the earlier pedigree. But the link between the Swynnertons and the Whitmores seems to be indicated by the Whitmore pedigree given in Chetwynd's "History of Pirehill Hundred" (N.S., Vol. XII. p. 200), where a marriage is shown between a "John de Whitmore," whom I take to be the great-grandfather of the claimant in the suits against Roger de Swynnerton in 1285, and "Margareta fil. Roger dom. de Swinerton." I fancy that I have seen it stated somewhere that the names Robert and Roger were often used interchangeably; but, whether this be so or not, I have little doubt that the pedigree should read "Margareta fil. *Roberti* dom. de Swinerton," for Robert was the name borne by all the lords of Swynnerton of that date. I suppose the coheirs-at-law of John de Swinnerton in 1285 to have been descended from three daughters of the Robert FitzAelen of the *Liber Niger*, and sisters of the whole blood of the Robert de Swynnerton (father of Robert and Margery) who died in or about 1224, one of these ladies (whose name may have been Sibil, see Vol. III, p. 32) having been married to the last Robert Fitz Payne of Aston and Stoke, another (Margaret) to John de Whitmore, and the third to an Alsager. This hypothesis appears to me to fit in exactly and quite naturally with all the known *data*, and to answer the test of chronology. The coheirs could not have been the daughters of the Robert de Swynnerton who died in 1224, or they would have been coheirs with Margery herself on the death of her brother Robert in 1246; and, if I am right in supposing that Roger son of Stephen de Uselwall's great-grandfather John was

a half-brother of Robert de Swynnerton, the descendants of the sisters of the whole blood would of course have inherited the Swynnerton estates to the exclusion of the descendants of the brother of the half blood, if it had not been for the settlement.

Mr. Swynnerton in his paper on the earlier Swynnertons (N.S., Vol. III, pp. 99, 100) argues that the grant of the custody of the lands and heirs of Robert de Sugnall by the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield to Margery lady of Swynnerton in 1255 must have been made to her by virtue of her right as the nearest of kin who could not inherit (as to which *cf.* Vol. VI, Part I, p. 91, note, and Vol. VII, Part I, p. 4)[1], and he goes on to state that the nearest of kin to Robert de Sugnall who *could* inherit was the issue male of John de Swynnerton (II) by his first wife, and the nearest of kin who *could not* inherit was Margery de Swynnerton. I think there must be some slip here; or else the argument seems to require that Robert de Sugnall and John de Swynnerton, though of the whole blood to one another, should be of the half blood only to Margery de Swynnerton. For if Robert and John de Swynnerton of the Stone Chartulary were both brothers of the whole blood to Robert de Sugnall's grandmother, it is obvious that Margery as the daughter of the elder brother would inherit before any descendants of the younger brother. But in truth I very much doubt whether either Margery or her husband John's issue by his first wife were in the line of succession at all. Under the old law, which prevailed before the passing of the Act for the Amendment of the Law of Inheritance (3 and 4 Will. IV., c. 106) in 1833, the descent was traced from the person last seised, and not from the "purchaser" (*i.e.* the person last entitled by purchase or gift or settlement, or in any other way than by descent). But there was a further rule that in collateral descents the heir must be of the blood of the first purchaser, so that lands inherited from the mother of the person last seised would descend to the heir *ex parte maternâ*, and in like manner lands inherited from the grandfather of the person last seised

[1] See also *Blackstone's Commentaries*, 4th Ed., i. 437, ii. 74. This right existed only in the case of lands of socage tenure: where land was held by knight's service, the guardianship belonged of right to the feudal lord, who in this case was the Bishop, but in making the grant he may well have been guided by the socage rule, which is probably what Mr. Swynnerton meant.

would descend to the heir on the side of the grandfather (2 *Blackstone's Commentaries*, 4th Ed., pp. 185–188; *Williams on Seisin*, pp. 62–63). Accordingly, if the lands at Aspley and Sugnall were inherited by Robert de Sugnall (as I think they must have been) from his Sugnall grandmother, none of his relatives on the Swynnerton side could ever have inherited, unless indeed he had "broken the descent" by conveying them to a stranger and taking a reconveyance back to himself. I do not think there is anything in the present paper inconsistent with either of the pedigrees suggested by Mr. Swynnerton (N.S., Vol. III, pp. 99, 100, 104), except to the extent of making John de Swynnerton of the Stone Chartulary the *half* brother only of Robert de Swynnerton. Margery de Swynnerton may well have been the natural person to have a grant of the custody of the lands and heirs of Robert de Sugnall, whether the latter's grandmother were her father's own sister or his half sister; and, if the former, the Sugnall coheirs may have died before 1284, or they may then have been represented by Adam son of William de Alsager. As regards Richard de Chell we know that his issue were all exhausted before 1284, for Margery's sons, Roger and John de Swynnerton, had both enjoyed the Chell estates.

On the Staffordshire Assize Roll of 21 Edward I. (1293) it is recorded that Roger de Peulesdon and Joan his wife sued the Prior of Stanes (Stone) for ten acres of meadow in Stanes as the right and purparty of Joan, and they said that one Robert her ancestor was seised of the tenement in the time of King Richard, and from Robert the right descended to one Ivo as son and heir, and from Ivo to Robert as son and heir, and from Robert to Joan who now sues as his daughter and heir. The Prior denied the seisin of Robert the ancestor and put himself on a great assize. It is stated that a concord was afterwards made (Vol. VI, Part I, p. 237). I think this must have been the concord referred to on an earlier membrane (possibly the dorse), for licence of which the Prior of Stanes gave half a mark (*Ib.*, p. 231).

On the same Roll (1293) is recorded an assize to inquire if the Prior of Stanes and three others named had unjustly disseised Roger de Peulesdon and Joan his wife of common of pasture in eight acres of heath in Waleton. The defendants stated that Roger and Joan never had common of pasture in the

heath, but only a right of way for their cattle; but the jury found in favour of Roger and Joan. The Prior afterwards gave 20*s.* for a jury of twenty-four to convict the last jury of a false verdict (*Ib.*, p. 238).

As already mentioned, we find from this same Assize Roll that the Prior of Stanes gave half a mark for licence of concord with Roger de Pywelesdon and Joan his wife (*Ib.*, p. 231). By this fine, which was levied accordingly 27th February 1293 in respect of 14 nokes and 2 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 8 acres of wood and 1 acre of pasture in Walton, Stanes, Stok, and Aston by John, Prior of Stanes, as complainant against Roger de Pyuelesdon and Joan his wife as deforciants, the latter acknowledged these tenements to belong to the complainant and to his Church of St. Wulfred de Stanes. In consideration of this acknowledgment the Prior undertook that prayers should be offered daily for the souls of the deforciants and for the soul of Thomas de Venables, Joan's former husband (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 50, 51).

These suits and fine are important for the present inquiry, first, because the pleading in the first suit sets out Joan's descent from her great-grandfather Robert de Walton, who was the son of the Ivo FitzErnald (de Walton) of the *Liber Niger* (Vol. I, pp. 178, 179), and from whom the lands at Walton and Stone would have descended to her; secondly, because the fine identifies Joan's former husband as Thomas de Venables; and thirdly, because the fine includes also lands at Aston and Stoke, to which she must have derived her title through her descent from Robert Fitz Payne. In Mr. Parker's pedigree of the Waltons (N.S., Vol. XII, p. 112) he gives "Christina fil. Roberti Fitz Payne" as the wife of Ivo de Walton of the *Liber Niger*. I do not know what his authority is for this marriage, but I would suggest that in all probability she was really the wife, not of the Ivo de Walton of the *Liber Niger*, but of his grandson the Ivo de Walton of the *Testa de Nevill*, and was the eldest daughter of the last Robert Fitz Payne (the son, I take it, of the Robert Fitz Payne of the *Liber Niger*), and that it was through her that her son Robert son of Ivo claimed against the other two coheiresses in 1233 (Vol. IV, p. 83).

In this same year (1293) there was an assize to inquire if

Geoffrey de Waleton and Geoffrey his son, Gilbert de Aston, Henry de Aston, Hugh de Wendoure and Adam de Burgheston had unjustly disseised Joan the wife of Roger de Pywelesdon of her common of pasture in 3 acres in Aston near Stanes appurtenant to her free tenement in the same vill. Gilbert only appeared, and the assize was taken in the absence of the other defendants; and Gilbert stated that a certain Geoffrey his grandfather held the said meadow in severalty all his life, and after his death Geoffrey his son, father of Gilbert, held it, and he appealed to a jury. The jury say that Joan was in seisin of common of pasture in the land in question until Adam de Burgheston had unjustly disseised her (Vol. VI, Part I, p. 241). This also is an important link in the chain, for it gives the pedigree of Gilbert de Aston (doubtless the person of that name who was one of the parties to the suits against Roger de Swynnerton) from his grandfather Geoffrey, whom I take to be either the Geoffrey de Walton who married Petronilla, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Robert FitzPayne, or else a son of theirs of the same name. I see no reason to question Mr. Wedgwood's statement that this Geoffrey de Walton who married Petronilla was the brother of Ivo de Walton (N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 420), though I do not know on what it is based; if so, the two brothers must have married two sisters, which is not at all unlikely.

Petronilla, the FitzPayne coheir, who was a minor in 1233 and was married in or before 1236 (Vol. IV, pp. 83, 232), was living in 1250 (*Ib.*, p. 119), but apparently dead in 1258, when Geoffrey son of Geoffrey sued Gilbert son of Robert le Marescall for 12 acres in Aston (*Ib.*, p. 138). It would be this Geoffrey son of Geoffrey de Walton who gave a messuage and noke at Aston *juxta* Stanes to John de Houton and Alianore his wife some time before 1267 (Eyton's *Ant. of Shropshire*, xi, 279, 280); and it would probably be this Geoffrey the son who under the name of Geoffrey de Aston was in arms against the king in 1269 (*Staff. Coll.*, Vol. IV, p. 172; Vol. VIII, Part I, p. 5).

In the year 1277 Hawise, the widow of Geoffrey de Waleton, sued Geoffrey de Waleton for a third of a messuage and two carucates of land and a watermill in Aston near Stanes (Vol. VI, Part I, p. 84), and in the same year Amice, the widow of Henry de Verdon, sued a Geoffrey de Waleton (probably a different

person, see *inf.*) for 4*s.* rent in Aston near Stone (*Ibid.*). I think that Geoffrey de Walton, the husband of Hawise, must have been the son of Geoffrey and Petronilla; for if he were the same person as Petronilla's husband (as suggested in Mr. Parker's pedigree, N.S., Vol. XII, p. 116, note) his widow Hawise would not have been entitled to dower out of lands of which on this hypothesis he would only have been seised in right of his first wife. Geoffrey de Walton, the defendant in the first suit of 1277, would be their son, thus making a third consecutive Geoffrey de Walton *alias* de Aston in the direct line of succession.

In 1278 we find Agnes, the widow of Geoffrey de Walton, suing in respect of her husband's death (*Ib.*, p. 101), and I think that this must be the third Geoffrey, and that he must have died shortly after his father without leaving issue. In 1279 Margaret, the widow of Henry son of Geoffrey de Walton, sued John de Houton and other tenants in respect of dower out of lands in Aston, Stoke, Stone, Burston and Oulton, but she did not appear to prosecute her claim and the suit was accordingly dismissed (*Ib.*, pp. 99, 107). The deduction which I draw from this claim and its failure is that Henry son of Geoffrey had become entitled to Petronilla's share of the Aston estates, but had died without getting seisin of them; and I think he must have been the next younger son of the second Geoffrey de Walton and have also died without issue shortly after his brother Geoffrey, whereupon I suppose the inheritance to have devolved upon a third son Gilbert, son of Geoffrey son of Geoffrey, generally known as Gilbert de Aston, whom we find in possession in 1285 and 1293 as already mentioned (*Ib.*, pp. 160, 241) and also afterwards in 1294 (Vol. VII, Part I, p. 9).

Besides the three Geoffreys and the Henry de Walton above referred to, there appears to have been another Geoffrey de Walton, living in 1277 and 1279, and Petronilla his wife, who both died before the date of the statute of Westminster known as *Quia Emptores* in 1290, leaving a son Henry, who was living in 1293 and then claiming a messuage and a virgate of land and 4*s.* rent in Aston near Stanes as son and heir of their two bodies (Vol. VI, Part I, pp. 84, 91, 237). This Petronilla appears to have been the daughter of Henry de Verdon, but I have not been able to place her husband and son in the pedigree of the family.

The last-mentioned Geoffrey cannot well be the same person as the first Geoffrey de Walton who married Petronilla FitzPayne, for in that case he would have been entitled by the courtesy of England to enjoy his wife's lands during his life if he had survived her; and therefore he must, I think, have been dead in 1258, when Geoffrey son of Geoffrey sued Gilbert son of Robert le Mareschall for 12 acres in Aston (*Ib.*, p. 138), and he was certainly dead before 1277: he cannot be the second Geoffrey de Walton, who was dead in 1277 leaving a widow Hawise (*Ib.*, p. 84), and whose son Henry was dead in 1279 (*Ib.*, p. 99), whereas this Henry was still living in 1293 (*Ib.*, p. 237): nor can he be the third Geoffrey de Walton, who was dead apparently without issue in 1278 leaving a widow Agnes (*Ib.*, p. 101), for, if he had left a son, that son would have succeeded to the inheritance before Gilbert. The frequent recurrence of the same names in this family causes much difficulty and confusion, but I think that the pedigree which I have tentatively put forward is at any rate consistent with all the evidence which I have been able to find in the Plea Rolls.

In Hilary term, 22 Edward I. (1294), Robert le Mareschal appeared against Roger le Pywelesdon and Joan his wife and Gilbert son of Geoffrey de Aston in a plea that, whereas the said Robert, Roger and Joan, and Gilbert receive the issues of a certain mill in Aston near Stanes by equal portions, and the mill was destroyed, the said Roger, Joan and Gilbert refused to contribute to re-establish it (Vol. VIII, Part I, p. 9). We may note in passing that this entry, even if it had stood alone, would have been almost sufficient to show that there were three coheirs, and not two only, of the last Robert FitzPayne of Aston, but the cumulative effect of all the evidence already adduced and hereafter to be adduced on this point is overwhelming. Robert le Mareschal, the plaintiff in this suit, I take to be the son of Gilbert and grandson of the Robert le Mareschall who married Agnes the FitzPayne coheir; and here it will perhaps be convenient to trace rather more particularly the title to her share in the inheritance.

Agnes, one of the three daughters and coheirs of the last Robert FitzPayne of Aston and Stoke, was a minor in 1233, married to Robert le Mareschall in 1236, and dead in 1250 (Vol. IV, pp. 83, 232, 119). Her husband, Robert le Mareschall,

was living in 1254, 1255 and 1256 (*Ib.*, pp. 132, 133, 248), but apparently dead in 1258, when his son Gilbert (le Mareschall) was sued by Geoffrey son of Geoffrey (de Walton) for twelve acres in Aston (*Ib.*, p. 138). Gilbert le Mareschall's name occurs occasionally between that time and 1266 (*Ib.*, pp. 159, 160; Vol. VIII, Part I, p. 5): he was dead in 1279, leaving a widow Emma, who was still living in 1286 and apparently also in 1301 (Vol. VI, Part I, pp. 93, 161; Vol. VII, Part I, p. 89): and it appears from the evidence given by his son Robert le Mareschall on the proof of age of Edmund, son and heir of Nicholas Baron of Stafford, in 1294 that the date of Gilbert's death was 2 February 1278 (N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 235).

Robert le Mareschall's name occurs frequently on the Plea Rolls between the years 1285 and 1306, when he was married to a wife of the name of Agnes (Vol. VI, Part I, pp. 160, etc., and Vol. VII, Part I, pp. 9, 150). In 1306 Robert le Mareschal of Aston and Agnes his wife gave half a mark for licence of concord with Nicholas FitzHerberd respecting the *third* part of the Manor of Aston near Stone (Vol. VII, Part I, p. 150). And by this fine, which was levied 6th October 1306 by Robert le Mareschal and Agnes his wife as complainants against Nicholas FitzHerberd as deforciant, the latter acknowledged a *third* part of the manor of Aston by Stone and 1 messuage and 1½ virgates of land, 6*d.* rent and the rent of a pair of spurs in Blakelowe to belong to Robert, to hold to the complainants of the chief lords, for which the complainants gave him 100 marks (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 66, 67). Who the deforciant was I cannot say, but notwithstanding the mention of the 100 marks (probably a purely imaginary sum), I suppose him to have been merely a trustee and the object of the fine to have been to settle the property, which already belonged to Robert le Mareschall, upon Robert and his wife Agnes.

At the beginning of the fourteenth century then we find the manor of Aston still held in third shares between the representatives of the coheirs of Robert FitzPayne, who were then represented by their respective grandchildren, viz., John de Walton the wife or rather now the widow of Roger de Pulesdon, Robert le Mareschall, and Gilbert de Aston. And before tracing the devolution of the subsequent title to this manor it may perhaps be convenient here to revert to the earlier title to the

manor of Walton, which, or the greater part of which, was then vested in Joan de Pulesdon.

In the *Liber Niger* (1166) we find that Ivo FitzErnald then held under Robert de Stafford one and a third knight's fees, *i.e.* one knight's fee in his demesne, identified as Walton and part of Stone, and one-third of a knight's fee held of him by Eitrop de Eston, probably a portion of Stone (Vol. I, pp. 149, 178).

In the Return of Fees and Tenants (1243) known as *Testa de Nevill* Ivo de Waleton is returned as holding one fee in Waleton under the Barony of Stafford (*Ib.*, p. 178; N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 397). This would be the son of Robert and grandson of the Ivo FitzErnald of the *Liber Niger*. By a fine levied in 1253 between Roger de Waleton complainant and Ivo de Walton deforciant a *carucate* of land in Walton (not the *manor* itself, or at any rate not the whole of it) is settled upon Ivo, to hold the land with all rents, services, wardships, reliefs and other things pertaining to it of Roger and his heirs for life, rendering 5 marks yearly and performing to William Trussel and his heirs for the said Roger and his heirs all other services pertaining to the said land; and after the death of Ivo the land and appurtenances to revert to Roger and his heirs, to hold of William Trussel and his heirs for the service of two thirds of a knight's fee; if Roger should die without issue the land to revert to Alice his sister and her heirs by the said William Trussel; and Roger did homage in Court to the aforesaid William Trussel (Vol. IV, pp. 244, 245). I understand this fine to be a settlement by Ivo de Walton of a part of the Walton lands upon his younger son (and probably then next heir male) Roger de Walton, reserving to himself an interest for his life as tenant to his son, who was to hold of the chief lord. It is not a subinfeudation by Ivo, as would have been possible at that time before the passing of the statute *Quia Emptores;* nor on the other hand is it an alienation of the whole manor, as appears to have been the view taken by General Wrottesley in his Notes to the *Liber Niger* (Vol. I., p. 279) and by Mr. Parker in his Notes to Chetwynd's "Pirehill Hundred" (N.S., Vol. XII, p. 112). That before 1290 at any rate a fine such as this might have had the effect of severing a manor into two distinct portions, and so turning one manor into two, I do not doubt, provided that each portion included both demesne

lands and services of tenants (see *Morris* v. *Smith*, 1 Leonard's Reports 26, 1 Cro. Eliz. 38; *Sir Moyle Finch's Case*, 6 Coke's Reports, 63a, 64a; *Gilbert's Tenures*, 210–212). But whether Roger de Walton's holding under this fine could properly be described as a manor is not very clear. However this may be, so much of the manor of Walton as Ivo de Walton had not alienated to his son Roger would on his death pass to his granddaughter Joan, the daughter of his eldest son Robert who had predeceased him (Vol. IV, pp. 119, 133; Vol. VI, Part I, p. 237). Accordingly we find it stated in *Kirkby's Quest* (*c.* 1284–5) that Roger de Walton and Roger de Pyveslesdon (Joan's second husband) held two thirds of a knight's fee in Walton near Stone of Roes Trussel, and that Roes Trussel held the same of Nicholas Baron of Stafford. It is worth notice that, when Emma Roland, the widow of Henry son of Dionysia and of Robert de Walton, sued in respect of her dower in 1255 and 1256 (Vol. IV, pp. 133, 248), she claimed in respect of lands in Aston and Burston, which (if my pedigree is correct) Robert had inherited from his mother the FitzPayne coheiress, but not in respect of the manor of Walton, of which Robert was never seised, as he died in his father's lifetime. The mesne tenure of the Trussells, mentioned in the fine of 1253 and in *Kirkby's Quest*, is not referred to in the *Testa de Nevill* (*cf.* N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 408, 409). In 1299 William Trussell of Cublesdon sued Roger de Aston to give up to him the custody of the land and the heir of Roger de Walton who had held his land of him by military service (Vol. VII, Part I, p. 62), and three years later (1302) the Sheriff was ordered to summon a jury of twelve from the vicinage of Waleton, none of whom should be of affinity to William Trussell or Roger de Aston, to make recognition if one Roger de Waleton had ever held of the said William a messuage, two carucates of land and ten marks of rent in Waleton by homage and fealty and the service of one-fourth of a knight's fee, the custody of which William (Trussell) claimed from Roger de Aston (*Ib.*, p. 100). A further illustration at a later date of this claim of the Trussells to a mesne tenure will I think be found in the proceedings (referred to *post*, p. 209) which were instituted by Ralph de Stafford against John Trussell of Cublesdon and others in 1341.

Roger de Walton, the younger son of Ivo, appears to have

been living in January 1283, when he was one of the jurors at the inquisition taken on the death of William de Audley (N.S., Vol. XI, p. 246, where the identification in Mr. Wedgwood's footnote of Roger with Robert seems open to question). His interest at Walton, whether it can properly be described as a manor or not, passed on his death in or before 1293 to his son of the same name, who was probably the Roger son of Roger de Walton, one of the defendants in an action of 11 Edward I. (1283) (Vol. VI, Part I, p. 154). On the Stafford Assize Roll of 21 Edward I. (1293) we find that Elizabeth the widow of Roger de Waleton sued Roger de Waleton and Margaret his wife and Roger de Aston for a third of a messuage, a carucate of land, 10 marks and 5*s.* of rent in Waleton near Stone as her dower, and the defendants conceded the dower claimed (Vol. VI, Part I, p. 213). At the same time Elizabeth the widow of Roger de Waleton also sued Roger de Pywelesdon and Joan his wife for a third of a messuage and a carucate of land and a mill in Waleton near Stone; and she sued the Prior of Stone for a third of forty acres of land in the same vill as her dower: Roger and Joan stated that Roger de Waleton was never in seisin of the land from which dower was claimed when he married Elizabeth nor afterwards, and she withdrew her writ against them, but recovered dower out of the forty acres held by the Prior (*Ib.*). It must have been Roger de Walton the son who was dead in 1299 leaving an infant heir, the custody of whose lands was claimed by William Trussell as already mentioned, and there was a Roger de Walton living in 1310 (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 76, 77).[1] In the *Nomina Villarum* (1316) no mention is made of this holding, but I have little doubt that the Geoffrey de Walton named in the Subsidy Rolls of 1327 and 1332–3 under the heading "Walton *juxta* Stone" was a descendant, probably a son, of Roger son of Roger de Walton (Vol. VII, Part I, p. 208; Vol. X, Part I, p. 91).

Returning now to the senior line, in which the greater part of the original manor of Walton as well as the third share of the manor of Aston was vested, we find from the Plea Rolls that

[1] In a scutage roll of 1303 Roger de Aston (probably the same person) is returned as tenant of a moiety of a fee in Walton near Stone. (*Supp. Close Roll*, 31 Ed. I., m. 3*d*, *Cal. Chan. Rolls*, *Various*, p. 96.)

Roger de Pulesdon, Joan's second husband, was certainly dead in 1296, and apparently in 1295, leaving a daughter whose name was also Joan (Vol. VII, Part I, pp. 37, 44). The date of his death makes it reasonably certain that he was the same person as the Roger de Piwelesdon, knight, who was slain in the King's service in Wales, where he acquitted himself so well that in August 1295 his heirs and executors were released from a debt of £267 due from him to the Exchequer for the arrears of his account during the time that he was Sheriff in Anglesea (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 1288–1296, p. 423). If so, it would be the same person who, as Roger de Pyvelesdon *miles*, was the second witness to Richard de Pyvelesdon's grant, dated 1294, of land and messuages in Braddesmere to Philip de Chetwynd in frank marriage with his daughter Isabella, as set out in the Chetwynd Chartulary (N.S., Vol. XII, pp. 285, 286), and who was also a witness to a deed dated Tuesday after the Epiphany 20 Edward I. (1292) (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 1288–1296, p. 249). He must have been knighted as early as 1283, when as a knight he served as one of the jurors on the inquisition taken on the death of Geoffrey Griffyn (N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 180); and he was one of the principal witnesses at the inquisition for the proof of age of Edmund, son and heir of Nicholas Baron of Stafford, in August 1294 (*Ib.*, p. 234). This Roger de Pulesdon must not be confused with another Roger de Pulesdon living at the same date, *viz.*, Roger son of Jordan de Pulesdon, who was also a witness to the Chetwynd Chartulary grant of 1294, and who was evidently a near relative of Isabella de Chetwynd (N.S., Vol. XII, pp. 284–287). This last-mentioned Roger de Pulesdon was still living in 1308 and 1312 (Vol. IX, Part I, pp. 5, 8, 16, 19 and 122), and (I think) as late as 1325 (*Ib.*, pp. 101, 107; Vol. XI, pp. 29, 35, 37). There was also a third Roger de Pulesdon, *viz.*, Roger son of Thomas de Pulesdon, who was living in 1304, 1314 and 1317 (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 47; Vol. XI, p. 31; N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 279).

In April 1305 there was an assize before the justices of Lichfield to inquire if Alianora formerly wife of John de Houton, John son of the said Alianora, William de Mare, Joan de Venables, Robert le Mareschal of Aston, Gilbert de Aston, Roger le Verdon of Darlaston, John Geoffrey of Aston, Henry his son, Hugh son of Richard, Geoffrey son of the said Hugh, Henry

Lutemay, Robert le Palmere, Thomas Cuche, Adam son of Hugh, William son of William son of Thomas de Aston, Richard of the Milnehouses of Sondon, William the Abbot of Cumhermere, and Thomas Prior of Stone had unjustly disseised Robert son of Hugh le Wayte of an acre of meadow in Aston near Stone. All the defendants appeared except Alianora, and Robert le Mareschall answered for her as bailiff and for himself as tenant, and denied that an injury had been done to the plaintiff. The jury found that Alianora had unjustly disseised Robert son of Hugh, and they taxed his damages at 5*s.*; Alianora was ordered to be arrested, and Robert (le Wayte) was amerced for a false claim against the others (Vol. VII, Part I, p. 126). The plaintiff and defendants in this suit were probably all landholders in Aston: the Houtons derived their interest partly by the gift of Geoffrey son of Geoffrey de Walton before 1267 (Eyton's *Ant. of Shropshire*, xi, 279, 280) and partly by subinfeudation in 1272 from William del Hurne of Aston and Edith his wife (see the fine abstracted in *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. IV, pp. 258, 259).

It will be noticed that in the last-mentioned suit of April 1305 Joan de Pulesdon, now a widow for the second time, is sued under her first husband's name as Joan de Venables.[1] But

[1] In Vol. II of the Huntbach MSS. (formerly in the possession of the late Lord Wrottesley, but since destroyed in the disastrous fire at Wrottesley) of which a copy, made by the late Canon Bridgeman, is now in the possession of the Rev. Ernest Bridgeman, Rector of Blymhill, there is a transcript of a deed belonging in Huntbach's time to Sir F. Winnington, by which Gilbert son and heir of Geoffrey de Aston near Stone gave to Sir Roger Trumwyn and Joan de Pole his wife a place of land in Aston called Brekekne lying in the field of the same vill, *viz.*, in longitude between the land of the lady *Joan de Peulesdon* and le Medebrok's and in latitude between the land of Robert Mareschall of Aston and of the lady *Joan de Venables*. The date of this deed is April, 31 Edward I. (1303), and the seal attached to it is stated to have been a lion rampant. I suppose that the Joan de Venables here mentioned was the widow of Roger de Pulesdon, and the Joan de Peulesdon mentioned in the same deed was his daughter of the same name, and it may be that the widow was called by her first husband's name for the purpose of distinguishing the two. In the scutage roll of the same year, referred to in the note to p. 199, *ante*. Joan de *Venables* is returned with Robert le Mareschal and Gilbert de Aston as tenants of a fee in Overton (*qu.* Aston). In the Calendar the name is printed *John* de Venables, but this is an obvious mistake, the abbreviation on the original roll standing possibly for either John or Joan, but more properly for Joan.

in or before the year 1307 Joan was married to her third husband John de Hinkley, for on 1st July 1307 a fine was levied between William de Hinkeleye complainant and John de Hinkeleye and Joan his wife deforciants in respect of one messuage, one carucate of land, 5 acres of meadow, 60 acres of wood, and £13 16*s.* 8*d.* rent in Aston by Stone, Burgheston and Wylanescroft: the deforciants acknowledged these tenements to belong to the complainant to hold of the chief lords, and for this acknowledgment the complainant gave to the deforciants 100 marks of silver (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 68, 69). The form of this fine suggests a purchase for value by William de Hinkeley, but it may be doubted whether the object of the transaction was not merely to effect a settlement upon Joan's husband. At any rate in Michaelmas term, 3 Edward II. (1309), proceedings were pending *Coram Rege* on a writ of *certiorari* for bringing this fine into Court, on which the Sheriff had been ordered to summon John de Hynkely and Joan his wife to be in Court on the Octaves of St. Martin to show cause why the terms of the fine should not be carried out: they did not appear, and the Sheriff returned that he had delivered the writ of *scire facias* by Gilbert de Aston and Henry son of John Geoffrey: the Sheriff was therefore ordered to give William de Hynkely full seisin of the said tenements according to the form of the fine (Vol. X, p. 7). But in Hilary term, 3 Edward II. (1310), John de Hinkeleye and Joan his wife gave a mark for licence of concord with William de Hinkeleye in a plea of covenants respecting tenements in Burgheston near Stone (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 24); and a fine was levied accordingly on 25th June 1310 between John de Hinkele and Joan his wife complainants and William de Hinkeleye deforciant, by which 15 messuages, one mill, 2 carucates and 22 bovates and 10 acres of land, 10 acres meadow, and 60 acres wood, in Aston and Williamescroft by Stone, and 7 messuages, 15 bovates and 2 acres of land, 4 acres meadow, and 3*s.* 4*d.* rent, in Burgheston by Stone, were settled upon the complainants *for their lives*, with remainder to William de Venables, for which the complainants give to the deforciant £100 (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 74, 75).

Meanwhile, in Michaelmas term 3 Edward II. (1309), John de Hynkele and Joan his wife gave half a mark for licence of

concord with Roger son of Jordan de Pywelesdon respecting tenements in Walton near Stone (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 19). By this fine, which was levied January 20th 1310 between John de Hynkele and Joan his wife as complainants and Roger son of Jordan de Pywelesdon as deforciant in respect of seven messuages, one mill, one carucate and two virgates of land, four acres meadow, thirteen acres wood, and 3*s.* 1¼*d.* rent in Walton by Stone, the *habendum* is to the complainants *for the life of Joan*, with remainder to William de Venables in fee (*N.S.*, Vol. 1911 pp. 72, 73). William de Venables was Joan's son by her first husband Thomas de Venables, and by these two fines of 1310 the reversion of this share of the Aston Estate after the deaths of John and Joan de Hinkeley, as well as the reversion of the manor of Walton after the death of Joan, were settled upon Joan's son and heir.

On February 3rd, 1310, a fine was levied between Roger de Walton complainant and John de Hynkele and Joan his wife deforciants in respect of two messuages and three parts of a virgate of land in Stoke by Stone, which were thereby settled upon the complainant to hold of the deforciants and the heirs of Joan for the life of the complainant, he rendering to the deforciants for the life of Joan one mark yearly, and after the decease of Joan rendering to her heirs a rose yearly for his own life, with remainder after the death of the complainant to the deforciants (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 76, 77). In Michaelmas term of the same year (1310) Richard son of Richard de Culeshale recovered a messuage and three nokes of land in Boreweston (Burston) from Joan formerly wife of Roger de Pulesdon (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 28), which is the last mention I have found of Joan.

In Hilary term, 7 Edward II. (1314), John de Hinkele gives half a mark for licence of concord with Gilbert de Aston respecting tenements in Burgheston (Burston) and Williamscroft (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 44); and by this fine, which was levied May 5th, 1314, Gilbert de Aston acknowledged eight messuages and four virgates of land in Burgheston, Stoke, and Willianescroft, and the third part of the manor of Aston by Stone to be the right of John, for which acknowledgment John gave to Gilbert one sore sparrowhawk (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 80, 81). The share of the Aston inheritance,

derived originally from Petronilla the wife of Geoffrey de Walton, thus became vested by purchase in John de Hinkley.

Accordingly in the Return known as *Nomina Villarum*, made in 1316, we find John de Hinkeleye and Robert le Mareschal given as lords of the manor of Aston (by Stone), whilst William de Venables appears as lord of the manor of Walton by Stone (N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 410). This shows that Joan de Hinkley was dead before that time. Her third husband, John de Hinkley, was now in possession of two shares of the manor of Aston, one share being his wife's share, to which he was entitled for his life by virtue of the fine levied in June 1310, and the other being the share which he had himself purchased from Gilbert de Aston. But William de Venables was now in possession of his mother's share of Walton by virtue of the remainder in the fine levied in January 1310. I suppose that John de Hinkley, Joan's husband, died not long after this date (1316); he seems to have been dead at any rate in 1321, when we find William de Venables suing in respect of land at Aston and Burston as well as land at Walton; and I believe him to have died before July 1st, 1318, when a fine was levied by John de Hynkele (whom I take to be his son, though it may possibly be the same person) and Elizabeth his wife of nine messuages and 4½ virgates of land in Burgheston, Stoke, and Williamescroft, and the *third* part of the manor of Aston by Stone, with remainder in default of issue of the marriage in favour of the right heirs of John de Hynkele (N.S., Vol. 1911, pp. 90, 91).

From this point I think it will perhaps be convenient again to deal separately with the three shares of the manor of Aston, which had now become vested in the Venables, the Hinkeleys, and the Mareschalls respectively; and I will take them in the same order as before, although this is probably not the strict order of seniority of birth, Agnes de Mareschall having apparently been older than Petronilla de Walton.

First, then, as to the *Venables* share.

In Easter term, 14 Edward II. (1321), William de Venables and Alice his wife, by Richard de Whathales their attorney, appeared against Philip de Wodehouses and William de Ernefen in a plea that they should carry out a covenant respecting 29

messuages, 2 mills, 3 carucates 2 virgates 37 bovates and 12 acres of land, 18 acres of meadow, 73 acres of wood, and 4*d.* rent in Aston, Willanescroft, Borgheston and Walton near Stone (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 84). If the above surmise as to the date of the death of his stepfather John de Hinkley be correct, this suit would be about three years after William de Venables' succession to his mother's share of the Aston inheritance.

In Trinity term, 16 Edward III. (1323), John de Hastang sued William de Venables and Alice his wife for causing waste and destruction in his lands, woods, etc., at Beffecote, which they held for the life of Alice (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 92). In the same year, and again in the following year (1324), William de Venables sued John de Hastang senior for a debt of £50 (*Ib.*, pp. 90, 103). In Trinity term, 17 Edward II. (1324), Joan formerly wife of John son of John le Hastang sued William de Venables and Alice his wife for the third part of two messuages, a carucate of land, forty acres of wood and ten marks of rent in Eccleshale and Penkrich as her dower; William and Alice pleaded that Joan had no right to the dower claimed, because John de Hastang was not seised of the tenements at the time he married her nor at any time afterwards (*Ib.*, p. 103).

In the same term, and again in Easter term 19 Edward II. (1326), William de Venables sued Roger le Mareschal for causing waste and destruction in the manor of Walton near Stone, which he had demised to Roger for his life; and he stated that Roger had dug pits in an acre of land and sold the marl and clay from them to the value of 40*s.*, and had pulled down a hall worth £40, three chambers worth £10, a kitchen worth 100*s.*, six granges each worth 60*s.*, and a sheepfold worth 100*s.*, and had cut down and sold thirty oaks each worth 3*s.*, thirty ashes each worth 2*s.*, and twenty-four pear trees each worth 2*s.*, for which he claimed £100 as damages. Roger appeared and defended the action, and pleaded that at the date of the writ William was in possession of the manor (Vol. IX, Part I, pp. 103, 115).

On April 28th, 1331, William de Venables levied a fine of a moiety of the manor of Walton in favour of Philip de Newbolt,

Chaplain, who settled it upon William for his life, with remainder to Richard de Venables and his issue, remainder to William brother of Richard and his male issue, remainder to Roger brother of William and his male issue, remainder to Gilbert brother of Roger and his male issue, remainder to the right heirs of the said William de Venables (Vol. XI, p. 132). Why this fine is confined to a *moiety* of the manor is not clear: possibly it is so described because of the alienation of part of the manor in 1253 (referred to *ante*, p. 197, and *cf.* p. 187, note). It has been supposed by Mr. Parker in his notes to Chetwynd's "Pirehill Hundred" that the remaindermen named in this fine were sons of William and Alice, and that William was the son of Thomas and Emma de Venables (N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 113, note), but I doubt whether this can be correct. The date there assigned to Thomas de Venables, *viz.*, 3 Edward II., if it refers to his possession of the Aston share, seems to me much too early, and it must I think have been suggested by a misapprehension of an extract from the *De Banco* Roll of 21 Edward III. (1347), given in Vol. XII, p. 72, and set out below, where the fine of 3 Edward II. of land in Stoke is mentioned, and (as I read it) Thomas de Venables and Emma his wife are referred to as having entered and being alive, not at the date of the fine, but at the date of the suit. The remaindermen in the fine of 1331 are not described as sons of William de Venables but as brothers of one another, and the William de Venables who levied the fine seems to have been succeeded at Aston by a Thomas de Venables who was married to a wife of the name of Emma.

William de Venables is mentioned in the Subsidy Roll of 1327 under the headings of both Aston and Walton (Vol. VII, Part I, pp. 200, 208). His name does not appear in the Subsidy Roll of 1332–3 (Vol. X, p. 91), and my belief is that he died without issue about this time shortly after the levying of the fine of 1331, that his successor at Aston, Thomas de Venables, was a near relative, probably his brother, and that the remaindermen mentioned in the Walton fine were probably sons of Thomas and Emma.

On November 3rd, 1333, a fine was levied by Thomas de Venables and Emma his wife of the manor of Aston near Stone in favour of Roger de Pulton, Chaplain, who settled it upon

Thomas and Emma and their issue, with remainder to John de Hynkele and Elizabeth his wife and their issue, remainder to the right heirs of Thomas (Vol. XI, p. 136). In 12 Edward III. (1338) there was an assize to inquire if Thomas de Venables of Aston near Stone and Emma his wife, Roger de Pulton, Chaplain, and others had unjustly disseised Gilbert de la Bruere of 20 acres of land, 10 acres of meadow, 5 acres of wood and 5 acres of pasture in Hondesacre (*Ib.*, p. 80).

The only other reference that I have found to Thomas de Venables and Emma his wife is that already alluded to, *viz.* the *De Banco* Roll of 21 Edward III. (1347), from which it appears that the transcript was returned into Court of a fine, dated 3 Edward II. and levied between Roger de Walton complainant and John de Hynkele and Joan his wife deforciants, of two messuages and three parts of a virgate of land in Stoke (*i.e.* the fine of February 3rd, 1310, above mentioned), by which Roger acknowledged the said tenements to be the right of Joan, and for which the said John and Joan granted them to the said Roger for his life with reversion to John and Joan and the heirs of Joan. And one Roger Lancelyn appeared *ex parte* John de Hynkele, and stated that the said Joan and Roger were dead and that Thomas de Venables and Emma his wife, William, son of the said Thomas and Emma, and Alice his wife, and John Molet of Stone and Margaret his wife had entered into the said tenements and held them against the provisions of the fine, and he prayed a writ summoning them for the Quindene of St. Michael to show cause why the said tenements should not revert to the said John de Hynkele. A writ was accordingly issued. A postscript states that at Michaelmas term the Sheriff returned that the writ reached him too late, and he was ordered to summon the parties for the Octaves of St. Hilary, on which day the said John de Hynkele withdrew his suit (Vol. XII, p. 72). On the face of this entry it would seem that John de Hinkley represented himself as being the same person as the John de Hinkley who levied the fine in 3 Edward II., in which case I think such representation must have been contrary to the fact: he was probably his grandson. This, coupled with the fact that the suit was eventually withdrawn, throws some doubt on any statements of pedigree put forward on his behalf, but it is

worth notice that William de Venables, the husband of Alice, is here described as the son of Thomas and Emma.[1]

In the Hinkley, Venables, and Mareschal pedigree given in Chetwynd's "Pirehill Hundred" (N.S., Vol. XII, p. 119), Emma, the wife of Thomas de Venables, is stated to be the sister of Sir John de Hinkley, kt. This may be so, but it seems to me more likely, from the limitations in the Aston fine of 1333, that Elizabeth, the wife of Sir John de Hinkley, was the sister of Thomas de Venables, and I think that some corroboration of this view is to be found in General Wrottesley's note to his "History of the Bagot family" (N.S., Vol. XI, p. 195), to the effect that William de Venables had in 50 Edward III. (1376) been succeeded *jure hereditario* by John de Hinkeleye.

On the death of William de Venables, *circa* 1331 or 1332, the remainder limited by the fine of 1331 of the moiety of the manor of Walton to Richard de Venables and his issue would take effect; and this Richard de Venables, whatever his parentage may have been, seems to have been a person of some importance. He is probably the same person as the Richard de Venables who in 1325 was surety for Ela formerly wife of James de Perers (Vol. IX, p. 131), and who, having witnessed a deed dated 1332, was dead before 1376 (Vol. XIII, pp. 111, 134). He is men-

[1] I ought however to say that I have referred to the original entry on this *De Banco* Roll, the transcript of which is in parts much abbreviated, and I am not sure that the last two lines of the transcript as to the withdrawal of the suit (Vol. XII, p. 72) are quite correct. The entry proceeds to state a fresh allegation by John de Hinkley as follows:—"And upon this the said John de Hynkele says that a certain William, son of Thomas de Venables, and Alice his wife had lately (*modo*) entered into one messuage and two parts of the said land, and a certain John Molet and Margery his wife into one messuage and a third part of the said land, and he prays for a writ summoning them for the Octaves of St. Hilary to show cause in form aforesaid. And the said John says that he does not wish to prosecute his suit *against the others*, etc." I do not find that he withdrew his suit against William and Alice de Venables or against John and Margaret Molet, though I am not aware of any further mention of this suit on the Plea Rolls; but he clearly abandoned his claim against Thomas and Emma de Venables, and it is not clear from this record that they were still alive at this time. However, there was a Thomas de Venables who is mentioned as one of the jurors on an inquisition taken 9th August, 1348, with reference to the Sondon Church (*ante*, pp. 124, 125).

tioned several times in the Patent Rolls and Close Rolls, *e.g.*, as a commissioner to arrest a fugitive in 1336, as a collector of tenths and fifteenths in 1338, 1339, and 1340, and as escheator for the counties of Gloucester, Worcester, Hereford, Salop, Stafford, and the March of Wales in 1340 (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1334–1338, p. 358; 1338–1340, p. 273; 1340–1343, pp. 30, 33, 40; *Cal. Close Rolls*, 1337–1339, p. 365; 1339–1341, pp. 201, 503, 535, 552). He was returned M.P. for the county of Stafford in 1338 (*Parl. Papers*, 1878, Vol. LXII, Part I, p. 120). He was dead in 1341, leaving a son and heir (William) then under age, as appears from the next extract.

In Easter term 15 Edward III. (1341) Ralph de Stafford appeared, by Hugh de Aston his attorney, against John Trussel of Cublesdon, Chivaler, Thomas de Brynton, John de Podemore, and Robert Balle of Blorton for unlawfully abducting from Walton-near-Stone William, son and heir of Richard de Venables, who was under age and whose marriage belonged to him (Vol. XI, p. 114; *cf.* Vol. XII, Part I, pp. 11, 45, 83, 86, from which it appears that this suit continued for a considerable time and was still pending in 1348). On the same Roll is another suit concerning tenements in Melewych, in which reference is made to the death of Richard de Venables and the appearance of William his son and heir by his *custos* (Vol. XI, pp. 118, 119): at a later stage of the proceedings in this last suit, in Michaelmas term 21 Edward III. (1347), William son of Richard de Venables appears in person, and I presume that he had then attained at least the age of 14 years, when the guardianship and custody of lands of socage tenure would terminate, if not his full age of 21 (Vol. XII, Part I, p. 74). William Venables of Aston near Stone was the grantee of six marks of rent out of lands in Bromleye Bagot in 40 Edward III. (1366) from Richard de Hampton, Clerk, under a Blithfield deed (N.S., Vol. XI, p. 195), and (as already mentioned) there is a note by General Wrottesley upon another Blithfield deed of 50 Edward III. (1376) to the effect that John de Hinkeleye had then succeeded William de Venables *jure hereditario* (*Ib.*). Whether this William was the son of Richard de Venables or his brother is not clear; nor is it easy to reconcile this note of General Wrottesley's

with Chetwynd's statement referred to below about Agnes de Wyrall.

There is not much more that I have been able to find in the Plea Rolls about the Venables family in the fourteenth century. There was a Thomas, son of William de Venables, living in 1356 (Vol. XIV, p. 97), and this may have been the Thomas Venables de Aston mentioned by Chetwynd as having died without issue male 1 Richard II. (1377) leaving a daughter and sole heir Agnes then married to Robert de Wyrall (N.S., Vol. XII, p. 119). According to Chetwynd's statement Robert de Wyrall in that year passed the third part of the manor of Aston (part of his wife's inheritance) to John de Redenhall and others, who must (he thought) have conveyed it not long after to John de Hinkley of Stoke, in whose favour Robert and Agnes de Wyrall quitted all their right and title in 21 Richard II. (1397).

Let us now turn to the *Hinkley* share of the manor of Aston, which was purchased by John de Hinkley in 1314 from Gilbert de Aston. I have already given my reasons for thinking that John de Hinkley, the third husband of Joan de Walton, was dead in 1318, and the fine levied in that year by John de Hynkele, whom I take to be his son by a former wife, and Elizabeth his wife has already been set out (*ante*, p. 204). I may add here that on January 22nd, 1322, a writ was directed to the Sheriffs of Salop and Staffordshire to take into the King's hands all the lands of (amongst other people) John de Hinkeleye and to answer for the proceeds thereof in the King's *camera* (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 127). This is at first sight suggestive of his recent death, but the more probable explanation is that it was a confiscation of the lands of persons who had taken part against the King in the civil war, and that it refers to John de Hinkley the son, who would be the John de Hinkeley mentioned in the Subsidy Rolls of 1327 and 1332–3 (Vol. VII, Part I, p. 200; Vol. X, p. 91). This last mentioned John de Hinkley was a commissioner of array in the county of Stafford in 1324 (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1324–1327, p. 8), and in the commission of the peace for the same county in 1325 (*Ib.*, pp. 233, 286). He was knighted in or before 1323–4 (*Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VIII, Part I, p. 45; *cf.* Vol. XI, pp. 12, 21); and served as Sheriff for the counties of Stafford and Salop during the first three years of the reign of

Edward III. (1327–1329) and again in 1335 (Vol. XIV, pp. 8, 10, 11, 14; Vol. XVI, p. 6; *ante*, pp. 12, 49). He was M.P. for the county of Stafford in 1320, 1325, 1328 (twice), 1330, 1335 and 1336 (*Parl. Papers*, 1878, Vol. LXII, Part I, pp. 61, 74, 82, 84, 90, 107, 110). There was a John de Hynkeleye (probably the same person) who is mentioned with Elizabeth his wife in connection with lands at Erleton and Clotleye in Shropshire in 1324 (Eyton's *Ant. of Shropshire*, viii, 278). In the fine of (the Venables' share of) the manor of Aston in 1333 already referred to John de Hynkele and Elizabeth his wife are named as remaindermen in default of issue of Thomas and Emma de Venables (*Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XI, p. 136). As Monsieur Johan de Hynkeleye he was witness to a deed in Norman French dated 31st March 9 Edward III. (1335) (Vol. XIV, p. 49, note). In 1344 John de Hynkeley knight and Elizabeth his wife were deforciants in a fine levied by William son of John de Wystaneswyk and Agnes his wife in respect of a messuage and a bovate of land in Wystaneswyk, which they grant to William and Agnes and their issue, rendering four marks yearly, with remainder to John and Elizabeth and the heirs of Elizabeth (Vol. XI, p. 157). Sir John de Hinkley, though a son of the John de Hinkley who married Joan de Walton, cannot I think have been her son, for she must have been well past the age of child-bearing when she married her third husband; and I therefore take him to be John de Hinkley's son by a former wife.

In Trinity term 21 Edward III. (1347) a John de Hynkele was plaintiff in the suit against Thomas de Venables already referred to, in which the transcript of the fine of 3 Edward II. levied by John and Joan de Hynkele of tenements in Stoke was returned into Court (Vol. XII, p. 72). But he is not described as a knight, and I believe him to have been the son of Sir John and Elizabeth and the grandson of John de Hinkley, the husband of Joan. That John de Hinkley the sheriff had a son of the same name and apparently of full age in 1342 is shown by an entry on the Patent Roll for that year (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1340–1343, p. 345). I think it must be the same John de Hynkeleye (son of the Sheriff) whose widow is mentioned in the *De Banco* Roll of Michaelmas, 24 Edward III. (1370), where

Alesia formerly wife of John de Hynkeleye, who brought a writ of dower against the Prior of Stone, the *custos* of the land and heir of John de Hynkeleye, respecting tenements in Aston near Stone, did not appear to prosecute it, and she and her sureties were *in misericordiâ* (Vol. XII, p. 101): from this it appears that he was dead in 1370, in which year a John de Hynkeleye (either himself or possibly his son) conveyed all his lands within the fee of Bromleye Bagot to John de Chelle (N.S., Vol. XI, p. 195).

In Michaelmas term, 50 Edward III. (1376), John de Hynkeley sued Henry le Monte for treading down and consuming his growing corn and grass at Aston near Stone with his cattle *vi et armis* to the value of 40*s.* (Vol. XIII, p. 138). John de Hinkley was a justice of the peace for the County of Stafford in 1382 (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 1381–1385, p. 139), and was returned M.P. for the same county in 1378 and 1385 (*Parl. Papers*, 1878, Vol. LXII, Part I, pp. 200, 226). This makes the fourth successive John de Hinkley who was in possession of Petronilla de Walton's share in the Aston estate, and so far as I am aware there is no reason to doubt that the succession was in each case from father to son. It would probably be this John de Hinkley who (according to Chetwynd) brought back the heart and bones of Hugh Earl of Stafford from Rhodes after his pilgrimage to the Holy Land for burial in Stone Priory in 9 Richard II. (1385), and in whose favour Robert de Wyrell and Agnes his wife released their right and title to the Venables' share of the manor of Aston in 1397 as already mentioned (*Staff. Hist. Coll.*, N.S., Vol. XII, pp. 114, 115).

Lastly we come to the *Mareschall* share, the devolution of which has already been traced from Agnes Fitz Payne, who was married to Robert le Mareschall about 1236, to her grandson Robert son of Gilbert le Mareschall, who in 1306 was also married to a wife of the name of Agnes, and who is probably the same person as the Robert le Mareschall named in the *Nomina Villarum* in 1316 as one of the joint lords of the vill of Aston (N.S., Vol. 1911, p. 410). In Easter term 10 Edward II. (1317) John de Hastang sued Robert le Mareschall for a debt of £100 (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 68), which is I think the last we hear of this Robert le Mareschal[1].

It has been stated that the successors of Robert le Mareschall all bore the name of Robert (N.S., Vol. XII, pp. 114, 119), and this may be so. I do not doubt that Robert le Mareschall named in the Subsidy Rolls of 1327 and 1332–3 under the headings 'Aston,' and 'Aston *et* Burveston' was his son (Vol. VII, Part I, p. 200; Vol. X, p. 91). But I think it by no means clear that he was the eldest son. In Michaelmas term, 15 Edward II. (1321), Sibella formerly wife of Reginald de Morughale sued *Roger* son of Robert le Mareschall for one third of eight acres in Longedon (Vol. IX, Part I, p. 86). And the proceedings in the two suits in 1324 and 1326 by William de Venables against *Roger* le Mareschall for waste committed by the latter in the manor of Walton demised by the former to him for his life (*Ib.*, pp. 103, 115) have already been alluded to at some length.

On the *De Banco* Roll of 5 Edward III. (1331) is enrolled the will of *Roger* Mareschal, Canon of the Cathedral Church of Lichfield, dated in 1317 and proved 13 April, 1328 (Vol. XI, pp. 30–32). It is too long to transcribe here in full, but it is in many respects a very interesting document. It begins by making very elaborate provisions for his funeral and for masses to be said for his soul: he then bequeaths £200 "to marry or assist in marrying twenty girls amongst my nearest relations and amongst the poor, besides ten elsewhere married, so that there may be thirty married by me": he devises all the lands he holds in fee to his brother *Robert* Mareschal, whose daughter Margaret fitz Herbert is also mentioned: he gives legacies to his sisters, Alice, Agnes, and Amice, all of whom appear to have been married and to have daughters, and also to his niece Amice Hykelyn (the daughter of his sister Amice) who also seems to be a married lady: other people mentioned in the will are William Trumwyne, Roger son of Magister Thomas de Pulesdon, Philip de Chetwynde, Nicholaa Mareschal, and his cousins Henry de Pullesdon, Brother Robert de Fyndern and Brother Thomas de Venables: he bequeaths several suits of armour to his brother and others, and he makes provision for the repair of the bridges of Walton and Aston and the chapel of St. Nicholas at Aston. This last provision for the repair of the bridges obviously suggests that the testator was specially interested in their preservation; we know from the suits of 1324 and 1326 that Roger le Mareschall had a lease for

his life of the manor of Walton, and I think it is more than probable that he was also owner of a share of the manor of Aston: and, lastly, it seems unlikely that an ecclesiastical dignitary should be possessed of so many suits of armour, unless he had inherited them as his father's successor. On the other hand it is right to mention that in the Subsidy Roll of 1327 the name given under the heading of 'Aston' is Robert (not Roger) le Mareschal, although Roger's name occurs under other headings, *viz.* 'Derlaston,' 'Eccleshele' and 'Clifton' (Vol. VII, Part I, pp. 200, 210, 211, 230). This return, though the inquiry was directed and it should properly refer to the date Michaelmas Day, 1327, was not completed until 1329, and we know that Roger was dead at any rate some time before April, 1328, when his will was proved. Upon the whole it seems to me most probable that Roger was the eldest son, and that he was succeeded at Aston by his brother Robert.

Robert le Mareschall's name occurs on the Plea Rolls several times between the years 1329 and 1334 (Vol. XI, pp. 16, 30, 39, 46, 56), and he is named again in the Subsidy Roll of 1332–3 under 'Aston *et* Burveston' (Vol. X, p. 91). He was returned as M.P. for the county of Stafford in 1332 (*Parl. Papers*, 1878, Vol. LXII, Part I, p. 99).

The subsequent entries on the Plea Rolls contain so little that bears upon the devolution of this share of the manor of Aston that I have thought it useless to attempt to trace it any further,[1] but I may just say that the Mareschall share appears to have remained vested in that family till the reign of Henry VI., when it came by purchase to William Lee of Aston, who had (I believe) previously acquired both the other shares. See the fines levied on the octaves of St. Michael, 16 Henry VI. (1437), and on the Morrow of All Souls, 20 Henry VI. (1441), (Vol. XI, pp. 232, 233; *cf.* N.S., Vol. XII, p. 114); and see also the Inquisition of Knights' fees taken at Stafford 10 Henry VI. (1431) set out in Shew's *Staffordshire*, Vol. I, p. xxxii, from Huntbach MSS., No. 2, p. 108.

[1] There was a Roger le Mareschall who was a juror on an inquisition taken in August, 1348, and apparently still living in the early part of 1351, whilst a Robert le Mareschall appears as a juror on an inquisition taken in October, 1351 (*ante*, pp. 127, 144, 145, 146).

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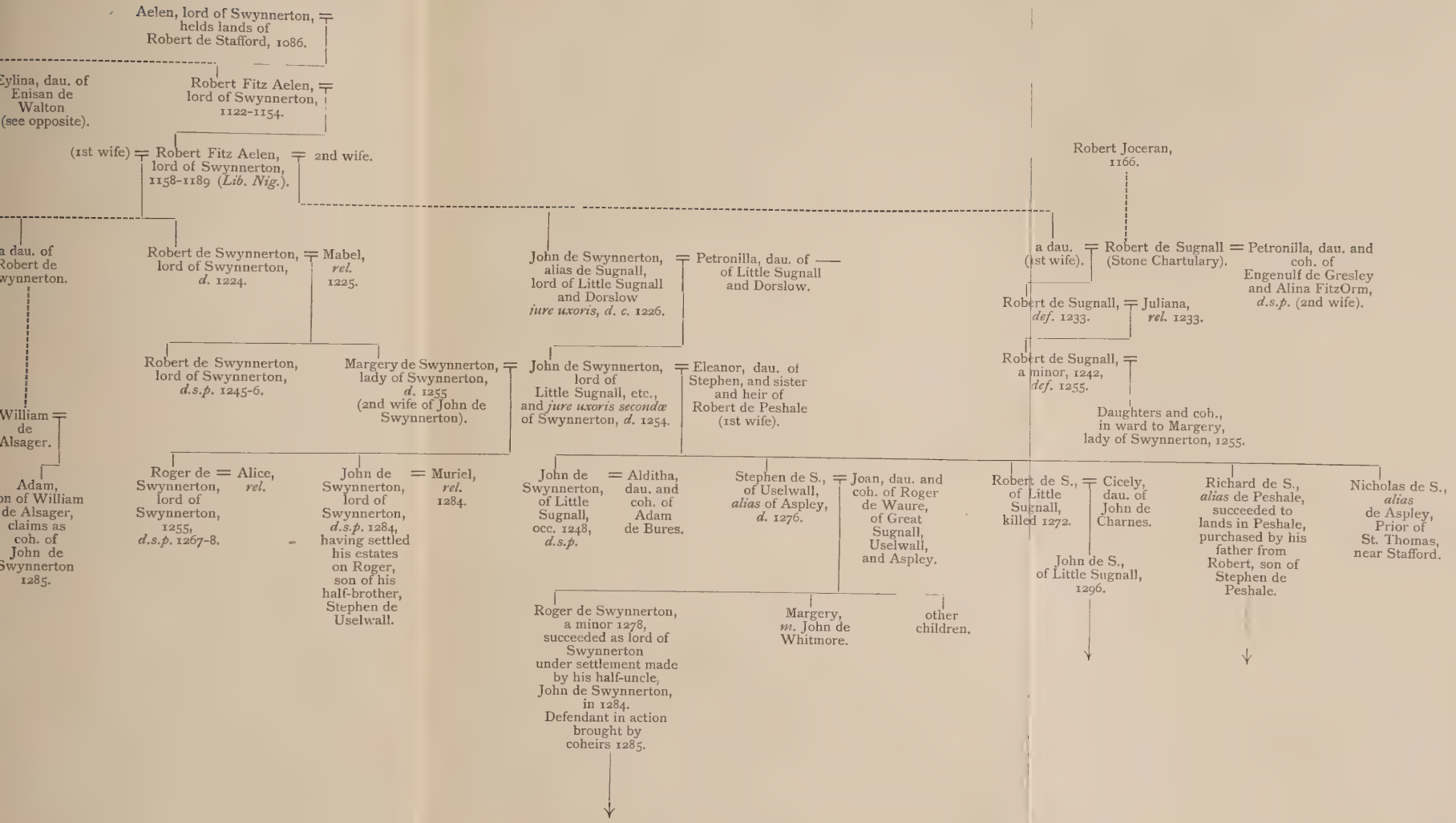
PEDIGREE OF SWYNNERTON

(*cf.* N.S., vol. iii, pp. 73 *et seq.*, 96),
SHOWING DESCENT OF ROGER,
SON OF STEPHEN DE USELWALL,
AND SUGGESTED CONNECTION WITH COHEIRS, 1284.



This brings to a close the task which I set before myself, *viz.* the elucidation to the best of my power, from the Plea Rolls and other available records, of the various problems arising in connection with the devolution of the manors of Aston and Walton in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. How far I have been successful is a question which must be left to the judgment of those who are sufficiently interested in the subject to peruse this paper. But this much I think I may safely say, that a careful consideration of these records, though it may not remove all the difficulties that have arisen, does throw a considerable and very useful light upon the chief problems, among which I may specially mention (1) the devolution of the manor of Aston on the death of the last Robert Fitz Payne *c.* 1233 upon his co-heirs; (2) the probable sub-division of the manor of Walton effected by Ivo de Walton in 1253 by his alienation in favour of his younger son Roger of part of the demesne lands and services belonging thereto; and (3) the identity of the co-heirs at law, as distinguished from the heir by settlement, of John de Swynnerton, the last lord of Swynnerton in the direct line, who died *c.* 1284. A pedigree accompanies this paper, showing in tabular form the connection (as I understand it) between the various families referred to therein, and I hope it may help to make what I have written somewhat more intelligible.

ON

A DOMESTIC CARTULARY OF THE EARLY FOURTEENTH CENTURY,

COMPRISING

I. AN INTRODUCTION.
II. THE CARTULARY WITH NOTES.
III. OF THE BROMLEYS OF WHITMORE.
IV. OF THE BURGYLONS OF WHITMORE.
V. OF THE STYCHES OF BUTTERTON, CO. STAFFORD, AND OF STYCHE AND LONGSLOW, CO. SALOP.

By The Rev. Charles Swynnerton, F.S.A.

A DOMESTIC CARTULARY

CHIEFLY CONCERNING

THE BROMLEYS OF BROMLEY IN WHITMORE WITHIN THE DEMESNE OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME; OF OTHER LANDS IN WHITMORE; AND ALSO OF CERTAIN LANDS IN BUTTERTON-JUXTA-LYME WITHIN THE DEMESNE OF WHITGREAVE, ETC.

I.—INTRODUCTION.

THE history of Whitmore is bound up with the history of the manor of Knutton, of which fee Whitmore was a member, and the history of Knutton with that of the Liberty of Newcastle of which Knutton formed part. The lords of Whitmore therefore held their lands as *mesne* tenants of the lords of Knutton, who in turn held *in capite* originally of the king, and subsequently of Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, son of Henry III., and of his successors. The evidence of pleas and charters tends to show that the two families of Knutton and Whitmore were of kin, sprung from the same stock, and perhaps descended from one of the three co-heiresses of Richard the Forester of Domesday (1086).[1]

The vill or manor of Butterton, though so closely connected with Whitmore, had an altogether different record. Situated in the parish of Trentham, it was of ancient demesne (as indeed the Newcastle manors also were). But its history, its feudal *status*, by what tenure and under what overlords it was held, these points appear to have hitherto eluded observation, and thus have been misunderstood. Eyton in his notes on the royal manors of Trentham and Wolstanton and on the chatellany of Newcastle passed it by. General Wrottesley had no solution to offer. Even Erdeswick and Chetwynd, who lived so much nearer the lamentable period of the great confiscation of religious property,

[1] See Eyton's *Staffordshire Domesday*, p. 53.

appear not to have suspected the secret which the transcripts in this old domestic cartulary have at last disclosed.

The fact is the story had become lost. A ray of light, from a deed enrolled at Westminster in 13 Edw. III., in which Butterton is defined as within the demesne of Whitgreve, should have tended to clear the mystery. Unfortunately it was too hastily concluded either that *Whitgreve* was another form of *Whitmore*, or that the Westminster scribe had made a slip. And this was not unnatural, as though the lord and free tenants of Butterton certainly paid rents to the bailiff of the manor of Newcastle, this was held to be only in respect of acquired rights on the adjoining waste of Shortelyme, part of which belonged to that manor. The inquiry was further complicated by the fact that there were several Buttertons in the county, one lying by Stafford. Certain of the deeds, however, of the roll now under consideration prove the accuracy of the entry on the Plea Roll of 13 Ed. III., for therein, not once, but repeatedly, Butterton is said to be "*infra dominium de Whytegreve.*" Moreover, in one of them, hereinafter quoted at length, the saving clause runs thus :—"*Salve forensico servicio Domini Regis et salvis duabus apparentiis ad Magnas Curias de Whytegreve annuatim.*" Concluding therefore that Whytegreve was not Whitmore, but none other than the Whitgreave near Stafford, I examined the references to that manor in our *Collections* and found the problem at once solved. The proof of the long-buried secret is to be found in the following extract from the Assize Rolls :—

"PLEAS OF THE CROWN BY THE JUSTICES ITINERANT IN CO. STAFFORD, ON THE MORROW OF THE EPIPHANY, IN 21 EDW. I.

"A jury had presented elsewhere that after the Church of Stafford with its chapels had become exempt from the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield by consent of King Henry, the King's father, the vills of WYTEGREVE and BOTURTON, WHICH ARE THREE HIDES, used to render to the King 4*s.* for frythfee, and half a mark to the Bailiff of the Hundred of Pyrhull, until the Dean and Canons of the said Church, now fifty years ago, had withheld the said payments. And the Dean and Canons appeared by their attorney, and stated they had been quit of the above payments ever since the Church had become a free chapel of the King, and they produced a charter of King Henry exempting them and their tenants both within and without the town of Stafford from suit to County, Hundred, or Borough Court, *m.* 37."[1]

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, VI, Part I, p. 287.

In another part of the Assize Roll of the same date (21 Ed. I.) the jury found that Whytegreve, like Butterton, was of ancient demesne of the King where the little writ of right alone would run.[1]

But the "Church of Stafford" had other possessions in Whitgreave, and the following extract from the Inquisitions of 35 Hen. III., 1250–1251, gives their names and enumerates in full the judicial rights and powers of the capitular lords of Butterton :—"The jury say that the Dean and Chapter were accustomed to have, and still do have, their Court for themselves and all their tenants in the town of Stafford as well as without, viz., in Erberton, Buturton, Wyverston (Worston) and Witegreve ; so that if any do wrong he shall be tried and adjudged in the free court of the Dean and Chapter, etc., and no bailiff shall enact any suit from the aforesaid Dean and Chapter or their men at County, Hundred, or Borough Courts ; and the said Dean and Chapter have the right to hold pleas of land of their men in the aforesaid vills, according to the custom of the king's manors; and no Sheriff or the king's other officers shall execute the king's writ concerning the tenements of the men of the said Dean and Chapter, and if any shall be sent the same shall be delivered immediately to the Dean or his proctor ; and the said Dean and Chapter have gallows and outfangthef and infangthef; and their tenants, as well within the borough as without, ought to be free of tollage, pontage passage, and all other customs and tallages, unless when paid by the king's other Churches and exempt Chapels ; and all these things were confirmed by the charter of the king that now is."[2]

And the name of the place where the Dean's *Magna Curia* was held is recorded in a Plea Roll of 10 Edw. I., 1271, thus :—

"The Sheriff had been ordered to take with him four discreet and loyal knights of the County and to proceed in person to the Court of the Dean and Chapter of Stafford AT WHYTEGRAVE and in the full court there to record the plea which was in the

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, VI, Part I, p. 125.

[2] *Ibid.*, 1911, p. 120. All the privileges enumerated, together with the "little writ of right close" privilege, were those peculiar to manors of Ancient Demesne, that is, of manors vested in the Crown from the day Edward the Confessor "was alive and dead."

said Court by the king's writ of right (concerning a messuage and fifty acres of land in Wytegrave)," etc.[1]

We thus see that of the four outlying possessions of the Dean and Chapter, the two manors of Whitgreave and Butterton were liable for king's frithfees, an incident which takes us back to Domesday Book. In that record we find no mention of either place, because the lands of the Dean and Chapter have not therein been enumerated. What we do find concerning the possessions of the king's "*Canonici de Statford*" is however very remarkable. The entry runs thus :—" In Statford civitate habet Rex XIII Canonicos Prebendarios[2]; et tenent iij hidas in elemosyna : Terra est IX carucis."

Here we have presumptive evidence that the King's Free Chapel of Stafford dates back to Saxon times. Here, apparently, also we have the precise three hides of the Assize Roll of 25 Edw. I., as appertaining to the assessment of Whitgreave and Butterton. As might be expected, the hidage has continued constant. The two records, Domesday and the Assize Roll, appear to reflect and illustrate each other, and they suggest that Whitgreave and Butterton were possessions of the Church of Stafford from a time long anterior to the Conquest.

Exception might be taken to the fact that Butterton is several miles away from Whitgreave, and it might be argued, therefore, that Butterton could not possibly be within that manor. But this is to mis-read evidence. Manors were frequently transferred from one manor to another without reference to the distance between them. Butterton is one case in point. Orberton (Herberton) which, like Whitgreave, was one of the Prebends of the King's Free Chapel of St. Mary, is another. In the Chartulary of St. Thomas of Stafford, on which house both the manors of Whitgreave and Orberton were at an early date conferred, Orberton is described in two separate entries as "Orberton in Wytegreve." Territorially, the two manors Orberton and Butterton were without Whitgreave. For suit and service they were within. Hence the formula "*Butterton infra dominium de Whitegreve.*"

Again, that Butterton was a separate vill with its own *mesne*

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, VI, Part I, p. 125. The translation gives "*and* Wytegrave"—an obvious error.

[2] The thirteenth canon was the Dean or *Præpositus Canonicorum.*

lord, we know from the Great Coucher Book of the Duchy of Lancaster. Why then, as a separate vill, is it absent from that very complete list of vills and their lords which we find in the *Nomina Villarum* of 1316? Not in fact, but only in appearance, is it absent. It is there, swallowed up by "Wytegreve," the two vills being mised into one for what I will call fiscal and legal purposes, together with Orberton and Wyverston, and the lord of the collective vill was "the Dean of Stafford."[1]

We have seen in the Assize Roll of 21 Edw. I. that Whitgreave and Butterton used to pay to the King 4*s.* frythfee between them, together with half a marc (6*s.* 8*d.*) to the Bailiff of the King's Hundred of Pirehill. In an Inquisition concerning the inheritance of William Sparry in 24 Elizabeth, 1582, there is an interesting and pertinent payment recorded of "2*s.* frythfees and a rent of 16*s.* 8*d.* from the inhabitants of Whitegreave held *in capite* and as a third part of a knight's fee." It looks as if the other moiety of the frythfee had been paid by the tenants of Butterton.

Frythfee, or fryth-silver, was apparently an annual payment to the superior lord for liberty to take faggots for so many hearths, wood for necessary repairs, gates, etc., and so much grass for thatching from the lord's open woods and waste.[2] It was not rent, for the lands were held *in elemosyna.* It was the rate paid yearly for house-bot and hay-bote. But I am not certain that it did not also include rights of pasture. And it may be therefore that the 2*s.* due yearly to Henry III. and payable to his bailiff at Newcastle "for pasture in Butterton," was the Butterton correlative of the 2*s.* frythfee which, as we have seen, was for centuries paid to the king by the tenants of Whitgreave.[3]

Further, it should be noted that though the rent from Whitgreave had increased five-fold in the interval between 1271 and 1582, that is, from ¼ marc to 1¼ marcs, the king's frythfee had remained stationary, which is just what we should expect.

Moreover, it should also be noted that Whitgreave was held

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.* of 1911, p. 410. It should be noted that the Dean's manors of Orberton and Wyverston (Worston) are also omitted from the list.

[2] *Cf. N. and Q.*, 3rd Series, Vol. IV, 477, a reference kindly given by Mr. Jeayes of the B.M.

[3] *Inquisitions*, 40 Hen. III., 1255. These Butterton royal fees of ancient demesne were always paid, not to the local lord's bailiff, but to the King's. (*Cf.* Vinogradoff, *Villeinage in England*, p. 105.)

by the third part of a knight's fee. By that tenure also no doubt Butterton was also held, both manors together forming most probably two-thirds of a knight's fee.

But it would seem as if all the other possessions of the Dean and Canons of Stafford, outside the demesne or liberty of the town of Stafford, were also mised in Whitgreave, no doubt for the sake of convenience, as it was in Whitgreave that their Great Courts of suit and service for all their free tenants were held twice a year. This tendency finds illustration not only in their treatment of Butterton and Herberton, but also with regard to rights which they claimed in Aston near Stone. Thus in the 6th October, 35 Hen. III., 1250, we find the Dean and Chapter of St. Mary of Stafford suing Richard (but read Thomas) de Venables and Joan his wife for 40 acres of land in WYTEGRAVE, and Robert Marescall for 26½ acres in the same vill, and Geoffrey de Waleton and Petronilla his wife for 26½ acres in the same vill, as the right of their church.[1] These lands, however, were not in Whitgreave at all, but in Aston and thereabouts, in certain of which lands the same Joan and Roger de Puleston her second husband at a subsequent date alleged hereditary right on the part of Joan. Accordingly, under date 21 Edward I., 1293, we find an assize held to consider if Robert son of Ivo (de Walton) the father of Joan wife of Roger de Pywelesdon (but previously wife of Thomas Venables), was seised as of fee, etc., of 20 acres of land in ASTON NEAR STANES, when he died, and which the Dean and Chapter of St. Mary of Stafford hold. The Dean and Chapter stated that one Master Ralph of Oxford, Sub-dean of their Church, held the tenements in question for term of his life, ANNEXED TO HIS PREBEND OF WYTEGREVE belonging to the said Church, and that one Master Adam de Philiby, the predecessor of the said Sub-dean during his time, had held the same tenements annexed to the same Prebend. As Roger and Joan could not deny these facts, the suit was dismissed.[2]

It is unlikely that the capital rights of the Royal Free Chapel of Stafford ever left the Crown. All that Henry VI. appears to have done was to part with the patronage, advowson, and collation, which on March 16th, 1446, he granted to

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, IV, p. 119.
[2] *Ibid.*, VI, Part I, p. 239.

Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham, with remainder to his right heirs,[1] in exchange for those of the priory of Wooton Wavre. As to the Deanery property it was all seized into the King's hands at the general dissolution of religious houses, and it passed away by gift or sale to secular hands, but the fate of the superior rights of Butterton does not appear. Butterton is not named in the official returns still existing in the Record Office, though in the list of the free tenants mentioned therein, under the heading "Whitgreve" occurs the name of *William Butterton*. Nor is it named in the Muster Rolls of 1539, where we should certainly expect to find it. The fact is Butterton had no strictly independent existence apart from Whitgreave. And so, on these Rolls, under "Whitgreave," we trace it in the two undoubted Butterton names, Thomas de Butterton and Roger Palyn.[2] The only other landowner on a large scale at Butterton at that time was Thomas Swynnerton. But he resided at Ridge Hill, in the township of Onnilcy, the parish of Madeley and manor of Keele, where he had another estate.[3] Accordingly on the Muster Roll of Madeley, under the same year (1539), his name, omitted from the Whitgreave list, duly appears.

The earlier *mesne* lords of Butterton derived their patronymic from the name of the vill. Thus Ralph de Botterton (evidently from the context Botterton-juxta-Lyme) occurs in the Inquisition of Roger de Broseley (27 H. III., 1243). But sometime before 1278 this manor passed to the Styches of Styche, which was one of the many members of Stoke-upon-Tern, co. Salop. As Styche lies some fifteen miles distant from Butterton, they probably acquired lordship over this Staffordshire land not by purchase, but by marriage with an heiress of the Buttertons. They remained there in possession till sometime in the fifteenth century, though the right line ended in 1418, when the last William de Styche, dying, left a daughter and heir Elena, who (according to Eyton) married John de Sandford of co. Salop.[4]

[1] *Pat. Rolls*, 24 H. VI., R.O.

[2] In 16 H. VII., 1500, "THOMAS PALYN OF BUTTERTON" sues Roger Swynnerton for a debt of 23*s*. (*Newcastle Manor Court Rolls, R.O.*).

Staff. Hist. Coll., VII., p. 134.

[4] Eyton's *Shropshire;* from the Styches descended also the great Lord Clive. See *infra*.

Styche is now owned by the Earl of Powis. But as regards Butterton, we find a "Roger Swynerton de Boturton" holding the *status* of the Styches in that manor and claiming also rights of customs over "Nicholas Browne of Hanchirche and all the tenants there" in 23 Hen. VI., 1445.[1] How these rights came to him is not known. Possibly, in the reign of Henry VI., there was a marriage, though the Swynnertons had certainly purchased lands there in 1384.[2] At any rate it is a curious coincidence, perhaps only a coincidence, that just as the Styche lords of Butterton were alternately named Thomas and William for generations down to the year 1418, the same fact is true of the Swynnertons of Butterton, who from the time of the Roger of the year 1445, were alternately also named Thomas and William right down to the year 1836, when Mary, one of the three co-heiresses of the last Thomas Swynnerton of Butterton carried that manor to the Pilkingtons of Chevet, co. York, now represented by Sir Thomas Edward Swynnerton Pilkington, Bart.

With regard to Shortelyme this was a considerable tract of waste land lying partly in the manor of Newcastle and partly in that of Swynnerton, giving rise to endless disputes. These disputes were finally composed in a settlement drawn up between Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, the King's brother, and Sir John Swynnerton, in 8 Edw. I., 1279, by which the waste of Schortelyme, claimed by both parties, as well as a waste called "Wevre," was equally divided between them, half to be of the Manor of Newcastle, and half of the Manor of Swynnerton, respect being had to the free grazing rights of the Lord of Butterton and his free tenants and of the free tenants of Hanchurch, all of whom at the accustomed times had been wont to graze their cattle there from of old.[3] Some of this waste, however, had been approved, cultivated, and even sold, in the interval which elapsed between 1278 and 1316 (the date of the earliest deed on the roll), in accordance with certain special provisions of the settlement, and in this waste the Bromleys had thus acquired a footing.

I was informed by the Steward of the Manor of Newcastle

[1] *Newcastle Manor Court Rolls, R.O.*
[2] Chetwynd's *MSS.*
[3] *Great Coucher Book, R.O.*

that no such name as Shortlyme is now on his books. It has, however, survived, as Mr. Wedgwood informs me, in the Lymes, and in Lyme Road.

As regards Bromley, which was not in Butterton or in Shortelyme, but in the fee of Whitmore and within the Manor of Newcastle,[1] in one of the Whitmore deeds preserved in copy at Stafford, in which William son of Elyas de Bromley confers lands on his brother Richard, it occurs as the *campum quod vocatur Bromleye*.[2] In Bromley Green Farm the old name is still preserved.

These Bromleys derived their name no doubt, as analogy would show, from their tenement in Whitmore. Their *status* at the date of these deeds was that of free tenants, and also of merchants, probably timber-merchants, of the borough of Newcastle.[3] They were also moneylenders, apparently wealthy, adding considerably to their lands by advancing sums to needy squires and others on mortgage. Several of them were *clerks* though not necessarily priests, and some of them married local heiresses.

The roll itself came into my possession in the year 1898. The skin, in five pieces sewn together, measures seven feet two inches in length and nine inches in breadth. It consists of copies of Bromley, Whitmore, and Butterton deeds, with three or four Bucknall ones, many of them fines and recoveries, written on both sides in a hand of the early fourteenth century (Edward III.). Unfortunately many of them omit both the date and the test clause, while others are almost indecipherable. They relate to lands and tenements in Knutton, Whitmore, Butterton, Schortlyme, Acton, Bucknall Eaves, and in the borough of Newcastle. The cartulary, for such it is, is especially interesting for the light which it throws, not only on the lost history of Butterton, but also on that of Newcastle, rescuing from continued oblivion the names of certain of the Mayors and Bailiffs of that town, one or two of the Constables of the Castle, at least one Bailiff or Reeve of the Earl's manor, while it also tells us something of one of the rectors of the great mother Church of Stoke. Moreover, these deeds afford a striking

[1] *Bromleye infra manerium Novi Castri subtus Lymam.*

[2] *Vide* Hatfield *MSS.*

[3] See *infra.*

instance of the way in which impecunious lords gradually lost actual possession of much of their land, whether by sale or mortgage. For instance we know from other sources that the lords of Whitmore, though never a knightly family, had become greatly impoverished during the reigns of the first three Edwards, and such alienations were calculated in the event to impoverish them still more and to lessen their social and political importance. In their case, a rich marriage at a later date with a coheiress of the Verdons brought a welcome addition to their fortunes and enabled them or their successors, the Bougheys, to buy back their lost acres, and especially lands held in their manor by the Bromleys. The fact that this cartulary is endorsed by one of the Bougheys, a lord of Whitmore, of whose muniments it became a part, furnishes the evidence that this must have been so. And what was true of the Whitmores was true also of the lords of Butterton, one of whom, as we shall see, fell into the hands of one of these moneylending Bromleys who imposed the hardest conditions allowed by statute, and whose debtor apparently only escaped imprisonment and forfeiture by selling to his creditor the whole of the growing timber of his manor for a long period of years.

Lastly, this old roll is valuable for the number of place-names which it preserves, and in which it is exceedingly rich.

These are the abstracts of the deeds in the order and sequence in which they occur on the roll :—

II. THE CARTULARY.

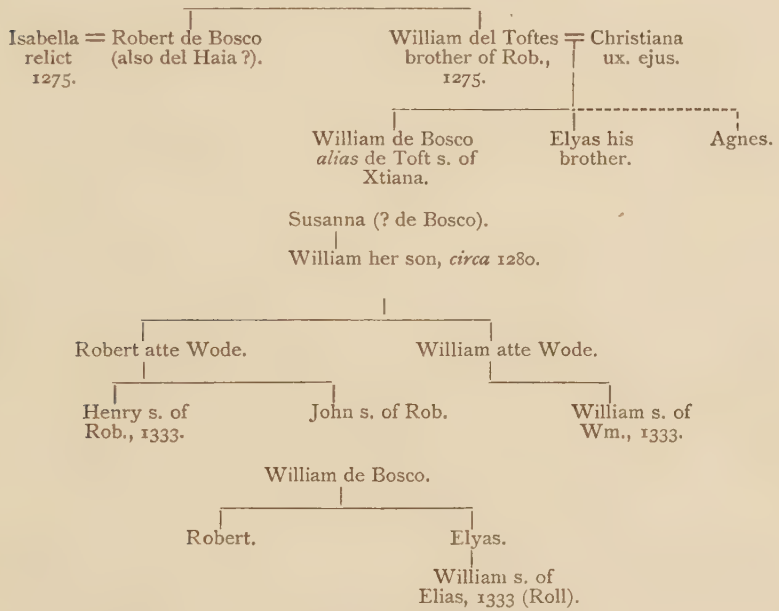
1. Grant by Henry s. of Robert atte Wode, to Robert de Peshale of Madeleye-subtus-Lymam, etc., messuage and all lands and tenements once belonging to Robert atte Wode my father in Whitemore and Cnotton, viz. 2 ac. in the *Grene* between the land of Richard de Bromeleye, clerk, and the waste called the *Whitemor*, and extending in length from the land of Wm. son of Elyas de Bosco to the said waste : and 2 ac. in the *Grenesiches* between the land of Ric. de Bromeleye, clerk, and that of John Burgiloun,

and in length from Adam de Sideweye's land to the land of the said John, together with all lands, etc., etc., in 2 crofts adjoining the said messuage in a certain *placea* of land called the *Ladyhurst* within the fee of Knottoun. To have, etc., of the capital lords, etc., by the services pertaining thereto.

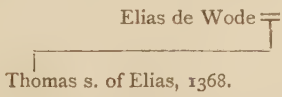
Witnesses—Rich. de Verneye, Rich. de Bromeleye, clerk, John s. of Rob. atte Wode, Adam de Sideweye and others.

Given at Whitemore, Tuesday before Feast of SS. Philip and James, 7 Edw. III., 1333.

Notes.—Atte Wode.—The same name as *de Bosco*, and the same as *del Toft*—as shown by a comparison of this deed with the next and by deeds among the Whitmore Evidences at Stafford (*Hadfield*), and by the Subsidy Rolls of 1327 and 1333. It is possible that this group was akin to the Foresters, as they may have been also to the del Haias, but it is not so likely. My idea is that these del Toftes were identical with the Knutton Offleys, deriving their names from *the Toftes*, which if not in Offley was at least not far off, and both under the lords of Haughton. From the evidence of this Roll and from other sources we derive these few descents :—



Wm. and Jno. de Bosco of Whitmore. Subsidy Roll 1327 (vii, 199). As Wm. del Wode and Jno. del Wode they come in Subsidy Roll of 1332–3 (x, 95).



Richard de Peshale of Madeley.—He was dead by 18 Edw. III., 1344, in which year his widow Millisent was suing John de Whitmore for a deed which he had

detained.[1] At Easter, 1347, William de Bromley had an assize of novel disseisin against Milisent and others concerning tenements in Cnutton and Whitemore. I think this Richard de Peshale was the clerk or lawyer of that name rather than the knight.

Richard de Verney.—In all that is at present known concerning these Verneys of Madeley, connections of the Verneys of Bramshall, the reader is referred to Mr. Parker's notes on p. 203, Vol. XII, N.S., *Staff. Hist. Coll.*

Richard de Bromley.—For an account of the Bromleys of Whitmore see Section III, p. 253.

Ladyhurst.—This *placea*, called in a deed of John de Legh of Knutton and Alice his wife *temp.* Hen. III., a wood (*particulum bosci quod vocatur Lawedihurst*), of which wood one half of the third part by that deed was confirmed to John son of Ralph de Wytemor.[2]

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2. Robert de Peshale of Madeleye gives to William s. of William, clerk (*clerico*), de Bromleye all lands, etc., with buildings, etc., within fee of Whitemore and Cnotton, formerly owned by Robert de Tofts, of Whitemore, *in perpetuum*. To hold of the capital lords.

Witnesses—Richard de Verney, of Madeleye, John, lord of Whitemore, Richard de Bromleye, clerk, Roger de Burgynion, Ralph de Bromleye and others.

Given at Whitemore, Thursday after St. Agnes, 8 Edw. III., 1334.

Notes.—This deed treats apparently of the same lands as in Deed 1.

Roger de Burguinon.—For an account of this family see Section IV, p. 261.

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3 Nicholas s. of Adam le Bedel of Madeleye to Wm. de Bromley, clerk, junior, a *placea* of land within the fee of Whitemore, which is called the *Ladyhurste*, in breadth between *Madelediche* and the *Blakemor*, and in length from the *Hanestowe* which Adam s. of Richard de Sidewey, and John de Sidewey hold up to the lane leading from *Whitemor* towards Madeleye, to have, etc., of the capital lords, etc., in fee and heredity for ever.

Witnesses—Richard de Verney of Madeley, Richard de Bromleye, Roger le Burgiloun, John de Sidewey, Adam de Sidewey, and others.

Given at Whitemore, Tuesday after Palm Sunday, 8 Edw. III., 1334.

Note.—Adam s. of Richard de Sideway.—There is a quaint reference to Richard in the Pleas Rolls of 16 Edw. II., 1322, where we are told that once when he was driving sixteen oxen and some cows home to Whitmore, being in fear of the King's enemies, Peter de Eyton and other evil men took them from him, and kept them till he had paid them two shillings as ransom.[3]

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4. I, John de Kynardeseye, *consanguineus* and heir of Dom. John de Kynardeseye, lately Rector of the Church of Stoke-juxta-Newcastle-under-

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[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XII, p. 30.

[2] Original deed at Stafford.

[3] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. X, p. 50.

Lyme, in the Diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, defunct, give "for me" and heirs forever to Wm. de Bromleye, clerk, junior, one *placea* of meadow-land, etc., in Whitemor, which is called *Elkynesmedwe*, lying in breadth between the *Mismor* and *S(chort)wynesmedwe*, which used to belong to John s. of Reginald de Poddemore, defunct, and which John the brother of Reginald lately gave by charter to the said Dom. John de Kynardeseye, my uncle (*avunculus*), to hold, etc., for ever, and to me after the decease of John my uncle, claiming as *consanguineus* and true heir, etc., to hold to said Wm. de Bromleye, etc., of the capital lords for ever, etc.

Witnesses—Wm. de Cossale, Baron of the Exchequer of the King, Robert de Cossale, clerk, Wm. de Bromleye, Wm. de Bromley, senior, Ralph de Bromleye, John s. of Wm. de Bromeleye, Wm. de Norton, clerk, and others.

Given at Newcastle S. L., Monday on the morrow of Palm Sunday, 8 Edw. III., 1334.

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5. Final Concord, at York, in 9 Edw. III., 1355, before Wm. de Herle John de Stonore, Wm. de Shareshull, John Inge, John de Shardelowe, John de Trevaignone, and Richard de Okeburgh, the King's Justices, on the octaves of St. John Bapt., and afterwards on the octaves of St. Michael, between WM. DE BROMLEYE, JUNIOR, and RALF LE BURGILON, JUNIOR, concerning 1 messuage, 2 bovates, and 14 ac. of pasture, 2 ac. of waste and, 2 ac. of wood with, etc. in Whitemore and Swynnerton.

Ralph le Burgilon acknowledges the said tenements to be the right of William de Bromley, and that they were surrendered to him in the said Court, to have, etc., of the capital lords, etc., for ever.

The said Ralph le Burgilon also conceded that the messuage aforesaid and 1 bovate of land which Robert de Whitemor, the Chaplain, held for term of life by demise of Ralph in Whitemore on the date of this Convention, and which after the decease of Robert was to revert to Ralph, shall after Robert's decease be surrendered to Wm. de Bromley, etc. And for this surrender Wm. de Bromley gave Ralph le Burgilon 30 marks of silver, and the said Robert, being present, did fealty to William de Bromley.

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6. Ralph le Burgyloun, junior, quitclaims to Wm. de Bromeleye, junior, all right and claim in the messuage and lands, etc., of the previous deed.

Witnesses—William de Cossale, then Baron of the Exchequer of the King, Wm. de Stowe, then Clerk of the Great Roll of the Exchequer, Wm. de Broklerby and Bernard de Salford, then Remembrancers of the Exchequer, Richard de Chester, the Clerk of the Pleas at the same place, and others.

Given at York, Tuesday after SS. Peter and Paul, 9 Edw. III., 1335.

Note.—The Ralph Burgylon, the Younger, of deeds 5 and 6 is no doubt Ralph Burgylon, son of Ralph Burgylon of Longton, an account of whom will be found in Section IV.

7. "*De Bromeleye.*"

William s. of Wm. s. of Elyas de Bromeleye gives to Wm. his son one messuage and the buildings thereon together with all lands, etc., which he has in the fee of Whitmor, as elsewhere, together with woods, etc., to have, etc., to Wm. his son, and heirs of his body, etc., by hereditary fee for ever with accustomed services to the lords of the fee, with remainder to John his son, etc., and after John and his heirs with remainder to Richard his son, etc., and failing heirs of Richard to revert to himself the said Wm. s. of Wm. son of Eyas. To have, etc.

Witnesses—Richard, lord of Whitmore, Ralph de Bromeleye, clerk, Richard de Dimmesdale, John de Poddemore, and others.

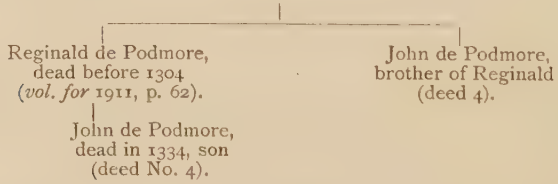
Given at Bromleye within the Manor of Newcastle-s.-L., the Friday after the Purification, 17 Edw., son of King Edward, 1324.

Notes.—Richard, lord of Whitmore.—A mistake for Ralph.

Richard de Dimsdale.—Dimsdale was a member of the fee of Knutton. This Richard, perhaps a brother of Agnes de Dimsdale, Ralph de Bromley's wife, was rated at iijs. iij*d.* in the Subsidy of 1332-3, and he also owned a house in Newcastle assessed at xii*d.*

John de Poddemore.—Podmore was in the Manor of Eccleshall. An illuminating deed regarding the family of Podmore is found in *Harl. MSS.* 506, in which the grantor is "Robertus de Poddemore filius Simonis de Cherleton" (Chorlton). Another deed in the same collection speaks of "Nicholas rector of Biddulph as *custos* of John s. of Simon lord of Chorlton giving to Wm. s. of Robert de Cotes and Robert s. of Simon de Chorlton a messuage, etc., until the legal age of John s. of Simon de Chorlton. *Witnesses*—John Lord of Swinnerton, Hen. de Embreton, Robert de Cotes, Hugh de Swineshed, Thom. de Chorlton, Carpenter, Robert de Cheres in Chorlton, *William ad Portam* de eadem, and others. Date before 1284. Chorlton was held of the Prior and Convent of St. Thomas by Stafford (*Ibid.*). These Podmores therefore would seem to have descended from the Chorltons.

These deeds and the Fines give us the following:—



Reginald and John de Podmore are described in the Fine Rolls (Edw. II.) as of Whitmore and Newcastle.

8. Thomas de Dutton, s. of Robert de Dutton, kt. (*militis*), gives to Wm. de Bromleye, clerk, and Isabella his wife a half burgage in the Netherstrete of Newcastle-under-Lyme, which said Thomas had of the gift of Rob. de Dutton, kt., his father, lying between the house and land of Wm. s. of Adam, on the one side, and the house and land of Thos. the Forester, on the other, and in length from the high road (High Street) to the land of Lord Thomas Lancaster, to have, etc.

Witnesses—Thomas Forester, then Mayor of Newcastle, Roger Todewyn and John Lycoris, then the Bailiffs, Ralph Tollys, Jordan s. of Hugh, Ralph Fisher (*Piscator*), Richard Lagou, and others.

Given at Bromleye within the Manor of Newcastle-under-L., Monday after the Nativity of the Virgin, 10 Edw. II., 1316.

Notes.—This is the earliest deed on the Roll. Thomas de Dutton, a cadet of the Duttons of Dutton, co. Chester. He lived at Maer (*Maneus in Mere in* 1346).[1] He held lands also in the fee of Chorlton.[2] It was probably the son of this Thomas who achieved renown at Poictiers as one of the body-guard of Sir James de Audley, K.G.

The Duttons had been settled in Staffordshire since the reign of Henry III., when Vivian de Standon gave one fourth part of Mere and Aston to Thomas de Dutton in frank marriage with his daughter Philippa.[3]

Thomas Lord Lancaster.—The Lord of the Manor, uncle to Edw. II., beheaded at Pomfret, after the action at Boroughbridge, 1322.

Thomas Forester.—This burgess of Newcastle, then Mayor, owned land in Whitmore and elsewhere, and was a man of considerable local influence.

John Lycoris.—A John Lycoris had land in Clayton.

Ralph Tollys, also a burgess was assessed in 1327 at ijs. vi*d.*

Richard Lagou.—His name often occurs. He also was of Whitmore as well as of Newcastle.

Netherstrete.—Mr. Wedgwood tells us that this street still exists as *Lower Street.*

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9. William de Bromleye, clerk, gives to Wm. his son two parts of a burgage in the lower town (*in inferiore vico*) of Newcastle, which were formerly held by Roger le Barker, of Newcastle, lying between the cemetery of St. Giles the Abbot and the house and garden of Richard Michel, and in length from the High Street up to the curtilage of Hugh of the *Watreputtes*, with the increment (*incremento*) of a certain lane leading from the said burgage to the demesne of *Waterlad* and *Hattbrok.* To have, etc., to him and his heirs, etc., with remainder to Richard, his brother, and if Richard should die, etc., to revert to the grantor and his heirs.

Witnesses—Jordan de Lavendene, then Mayor of Newcastle, William the Cotyler and Richard Lagou, then the Bailiffs, John son of Thomas, Ralph Tolys, Ralph *ad Portam* (atte Yatt), Richard son of Nicholas, and others.

Given at Newcastle, Friday after St. Giles the Abbot, 19 Edw. II., 1326.

Notes.—I think this must be the burgage of the previous deed differently described and under altered conditions. Two-thirds are given the son—one-third is reserved probably as the dower-right of his mother Isabella atte Yatt. The grantor's son John finds no mention in this deed.

Roger le Barker, i.e., Roger the Tanner.

Jordan de Lavendene.—A family of some standing both in manor and borough. As mayor he heads the list of his fellow-burgesses. These Lavendenes were of Longton within the fee. Adam de Lavendene, perhaps the father of Jordon, was

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[1] *Harl. MSS.*, 506. [2] *Ibid.*
[3] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VI, Part 1, 54.

Constable of the Castle, and gave land in Longton to the monks of Trentham.[1] (Early Edw. I.) He witnessed, moreover, many of the grants of his overlords, the Bevilles to Trentham Priory.[2] In the subsidy roll of 1327 Jordan de Lavendene was rated at iiijs. for his interest in the borough. Only two other of the burgesses were assessed so high.[3]

Richard de Lavendene.—A member of this family was a Canon of Trentham in 1299.[4] He rose to be first Sub-Prior, and then Prior, his election being confirmed by Edward I. In October, 1343, he lay "sick unto death," having evidently attained a very advanced age.[5]

Richard Michel.—In 1318 Richard Michel and Felice his wife gave Richard de Dilverne (Dilhorn), the Prior of Trentham, etc., all right in tenements held by them of the Priory in fee in the vill of Newcastle.

Witnesses—Roger de Tissington, Constable of Newcastle (*i.e.*, of the Castle and Town), Wm. s. of Thos. Swavile, Mayor of the same town, Thos. Forester, John de Lavendene, Ralph the Porter (atte Yatt), etc. Dated, Newcastle, Tuesday before the Annunciation, 1318.[6]

His share towards the Subsidy of 1327 was xii*d.* for his tenement in Newcastle.[7]

William le Cotyler.—In 1327 William Cutler was assessed at ijs. vi*d.* and *Richard Lagou* at ijs. These were the two Bailiffs for the year (1326).

John Thomson was assessed at iijs., *Ralph Tolys* at ijs. vi*d.* in 1327 and at vis. in 1333. *Richard* Nicholson was rated at iiijs. in 1333. All these were well-to-do tradesmen or merchants of the town.

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10. John s. of Wm. de Bromleye gives to Wm. de Bromleye, his brother, 1 messuage, 5 oxgangs of land, half of one croft, and 2 ac. of meadow with, etc., in *Botterton juxta Lyme*, to be held by Wm. de B. and heirs of his body, etc. If he should die without legitimate heirs to revert to the grantor. Rendering usual services to capital lords, etc.

Witnesses—Thomas de Stuche, Lord of Botterton, John de Lavendene, Ralph de Bromleye, Wm. de Bromleye, his (grantor's) father, Richard de Bromleye, Ralph de Poddemore, Hen. de Botterton, John (Forestario) de Botterton, Adam s. of Robert de eadem, and others.

Given at Botterton Friday after St. Barnabas, 2 Edw. III., 1328.

Notes.—Appended to this deed there is the following memorandum—

"And be it known that I, the said John, have written this charter with my own proper hand, and have delivered on the same day to the said William all writings touching the said tenements, and on the same day sold to the said William all the goods and chattels on the said lands, and allowed him an open entry through my land." (*Et eum inventum licui patentem per terram meam.*)

Thomas de Stuche, Lord of Butterton. For an account of this family see p. 272.

Henry de Botterton.—From this and other notices it would appear that he was of the old race of the Buttertons, once lords of the manor. Their descendants persisted in Butterton for many subsequent generations. Thus towards the end of the seventeenth century Chetwynd notes that the Buttertons are one of the two principal families of the place. Here is a curious entry in point from the Newcastle Manor Court Rolls at the Record Office :—

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[1] *Staff. Hist Coll.*, Vol. XI, p. 320.
[2] *Ibid.*
[3] *Ibid.*, Vol. VII, p. 206.
[4] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VI, Pt. 1, 280.
[5] *Inquisition Trentham Priory, ex infra*, Mr. J. C. Wedgwood.
[6] *Ibid.*, Vol. XI, p. 331.
[7] *Ibid.*, Vol. VII, p. 206.

9 Eliz., 3 October, 1567.

Whitmore.—Stephen Berdmore and James Berdmore, Frankpledges of Whitmore, present Roger Swynnerton, who is fined vis. viij*d.* by the Court, for having assaulted JOHN BUTTERTON and drawn blood from him.

It looks like a vulgar brawl and a bloody nose!

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11. "*Quitclaim over the aforesaid lands and tenements.*"

To all, etc., John s. of William de Bromley, greeting. For himself etc., he confirms to (his brother) Wm. s. of Wm. de Bromleye and legitimate heirs all claim to the property detailed in the preceding deed, namely in Botterton, but he supplies this additional clause, viz., that the said lands formerly belonged to THOMAS s. of WILLIAM ATTE YATT of Butterton.

Witnesses—Thomas de Stuche, Lord of Butterton, Jordan de Lavendene, Ralph de Bromleye, Richard de Bromleye, Ralph de Poddemore, Henry de Butterton Adam s. of Robert of Butterton, and others.

Given at Botterton the Friday after St. Barnabas, 2 Edw. III., 1328.

Note.—Though this deed passed on the same day and at the same place as the former one the witnesses are not quite the same. It reveals the fact that Isabella was heir to her brother Thomas in the Butterton lands.

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12. "*Charter made for Wm. de Bromleye concerning lands and tenements in Schertelyme.*"

Know all, etc., John s. of Wm. de Bromleye gives William de Bromleye "my brother," one messuage and all lands, etc., which he John has of the feoffment of Thomas s. of Felise, in the place (*loco*) called Schortelyme, in the fee of Newcastle-u.-L., according to the boundaries and divisions *specified in an ancient charter* delivered to the said William at the time of this transaction. To have, etc., in fee and heredity, etc., with reversion, on failure of heirs, to the grantor.

Witnesses—Ralph de Bromleye, Richard de Bromleye, clerk, Jordan de Lavendene, Nicholas de Bromleye, Richard Lagou, and others.

Given at Newcastle-u.-L. the Monday after St. Cedde the Bishop (Jan. 7), 3 Edw. III., 1330.

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13. *Enrolled in the Court of the Lord the King at York on the Octaves of St. John Baptist* 9 Edw. III., 1335.

Confirmation of the aforesaid lands and tenements.

Patent, etc. John s. of Wm. de Bromleye, clerk (*clerici*), remits, etc., to Wm. de Bromleye his brother, etc., all right to all the lands, etc., which he, Wm., had of his (John's) gift, etc., IN THE VILL OF BOTTERTON WITHIN THE DEMESNE OF WHITEGREVE, and in the waste of Schortelyme in the fee of Newcastle, "as in my Charters, for William my brother of my own good and spontaneous will prepared, as well as in ancient charters long ago

made by different men concerning those lands and given to the said William in my presence on this day, is contained," namely in all lands, etc., etc., which the same Wm. his brother had with his consent of the gift, etc., of Wm. de Bromleye his father in the fee of Newcastle-u.-L. and Cnotton, as in the charters of Wm. his father, etc., so that neither I, etc., etc., shall have any claim, etc.

Witnesses—Thomas de Stuche, Lord of Botterton, Jordan de Lavendene, of Newcastle-u.-L., Ralph Tollys of the same, Rich. Lagou of the same, Nicholas de Bromleye of the same, Adam de Bromleye of the same, Adam s. of Jordan (de Lavendene) of the same, and others.

Given at Newcastle aforesaid on the Tuesday after St. Nicholas the Bishop, Dec. 6, 4 Edw. III., 1330.

Notes.—This is one of the most important deeds in the series on account of the attribution *in villa de Botterton infra dominium de Whitegreve.*

The following curious note is appended to the deed.

And be it noted that in the presence of the said Jordan, I, the said John, delivered to the said William all the ancient muniments touching the lands and tenements aforesaid.

One can picture the scene, one longs for the muniments !

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14. *The quitclaim of the said lands, etc., enrolled in Banco.*

Practically the same as the last. Once more occurs the phrase BOTTERTON WITHIN THE DEMESNE OF WHITEGREVE. While the other lands are here stated to be in *Bromeleye*, *Whitemore*, *Cnotton*, and *within* the *manor* of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Witnesses—Sir Wm. Shareshull and Sir Roger Hillary, kts., and Justices of the King *in Banco*, Nicholas de Ruggeley, John de Delves, John de Weverston, John de Snede of Newcastle-u.-L., Ralph Burgynoun, junior, and others.

Given at London the Thursday after St. Katherine the Virgin (Nov. 25), 13 Edw. III., 1339.

Notes.—JOHN DE DELVES.—This is another family which like the Duttons came from over the Cheshire border much to their advantage. But their deeds in Staffordshire are still to be chronicled.

The first would appear to have been Richard, whom we find established in Audley and Chesterton, and also in Dimsdale, a member of Knotton in 1303. He had also apparently acquired a footing in Almington, where iis. iiij*d.* represents his rate for the Subsidy of 1327, and in Betley where he pays iiis. iiij*d.*[1] He was also one of the jury commissioned to inquire into the date of the death of Wm. le Wolf, slain by Roger, son of Roger de Swynnerton (lord of Swynnerton) in 1324.[2]

He appears to have left sons John and Henry, and Henry in his turn also had a son John. But it was John son of *Richard* de Delves, then a knight, to whom Roger le Burguillon granted the 24*s.* rent in Whitmore payable to the lords of Knotton, together with the service and homage of John de Whitmore, in 1367 and

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[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VII.
[2] *Ibid.*, Vol. X, p. 75.

again in 1369.[1] And he it was perhaps who fought at Poictiers as one of the bodyguard of Sir James de Audley, K.G. On the other hand, it was John son of Henry de Delves who witnessed Roger Burgylon's confirmation of Clayton to the monks of Trentham in 1380. They were a most vigorous race which prospered largely, married land, went to the wars, brought back spoils of war, bought out needy neighbours, and rose to great honour and renown in the County of Stafford in this and the succeeding age. The Delves and the Duttons in Staffordshire might well form the subject of an article for these *Collections*.

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15. "*Charter made for Wm. de Bromleye, Junior, and Joan his wife and their heirs legitimately procreated.*"

Wm. de Bromleye, senior, and Isabella his wife, etc., give, etc., to Wm. de Bromleye their son and Joan his wife, etc., one messuage with the buildings thereon as well as all lands, etc., etc., which we hold within the fee of Newcastle, Cnotton, and Whitemore, IN EXCHANGE for all lands, etc., etc., and for the whole of their son William's part of the waste of Botterton and Schortelyme which used to belong to Wm. atte Yatt, of Botterton, to John de Botterton, chaplain, and to Walter de Wolverton, and for all lands, etc., which Wm. their son had on mortgage from Henry de Botterton, and (for a term of years) of Alexander de Chavyntone, with appurtenances, in the vill of Botterton. To have, etc., of the capital lords to Wm. and Joan and their lawful heirs, with reversion to the grantors.

Witnesses—Stephen de Yrton, then Constable of the Newcastle, John lord of Whitemore, Richard de Bromleye, clerk, Roger Burgyloun, Ralph de Bromleye, Richard son of Sno, Ralph de Poddemore the younger, and others.

Given at Whitemore Thursday after St. Barnabas (11th June), 16 Edw. III., 1342.

Notes.—WALTER DE WOLVERTON. See *infra*.

ALEXANDER DE CHAVYNTONE.—How the Shavingtons came to Butterton I do not know. In 1296 Roger Lord of Swynnerton and John de Swynnerton (his brother) are witnesses to a Shavington deed (co. Salop).[2]

STEPHEN DE YRTON (Ireton) Constable. This seems a convenient place for recording the Constables, Stewards, Mayors and Bailiffs mentioned on this Roll, as well as in the Whitmore deeds among the Hatfield *MSS.* at Stafford, which serve to illustrate this Roll.

CONSTABLES.

Richard Aubyn (*Hatfield*), *temp.* Edw. I.
Robert le Venur (*Hatfield*), *temp.* Edw. I.
Adam de Lavendene, *temp.* Edw. I.
Roger de Tissington (*Michel Deed*), 1316.
Stephen Ireton (*Roll*), 1342.

MAYORS.

Thomas Forester, 1316. (*Roll.*)
Wm. s. of Thom. Saville, 1318. (*Michel Deed.*)
Jordan Lavendene, 1326. (*Roll.*)

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[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XI, p. 177.
[2] *Archæologia*, Vol. 57, Pt. 1, p. 84.

BAILIFFS OF THE BOROUGH.

Roger Todwyn, John Lycoris — 1316.
William Cutler, Richard Lagowe — 1326.
(*The Roll.*)

BAILIFFS OF THE MANOR.

Ralph de Thickness, 1275.
(*Hatfield.*)

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16. "*De Botterton.*"

I, William de Bromleye, Junior, demise (*demisisse*), etc., to Wm. de Bromleye, Senior, my father, and to Isabella his wife, my mother, for term of their lives all lands, etc., with houses, gardens, etc., etc., and all my part of the waste of Botterton and Schortelyme, with all appurtenances in the vill of Botterton, which used to belong to Wm. at Yatt (etc., as before), saving to myself and heirs my dues and rents in the vill of Botterton, IN EXCHANGE for all lands, etc., etc., which the said Wm. de Bromleye, Senior, and Isabella his wife, have in the fees of Knotton, Whitemore, and in the vill of Newcastle, and in Schortelyme waste. TO HAVE, etc., for the whole life of Wm. and Isabella. Rendering a rose on John Baptist, for all services, saving forensic service of the King, and TWO APPEARANCES ANNUALLY AT THE GREAT COURTS OF WHITEGREVE.

Witnesses—Dom. William de Blorton, Henry de Botterton, clerk, Adam de Blorton, Thomas s. of Wm. de Botterton, Thom. de Aston, clerk, and others.

Given at Bottertone the Monday after St. Barnabas, 16 Edw. III., 1342.

Notes.—This next to Deed No. 13, is the most important of the series on account of its reference to the Whitgreave Courts of the Dean and Canons of St. Mary's Free Chapel, Stafford. It passed within a day or two of Deed No. 15, yet it provides quite a different set of witnesses.

SIR WILLIAM DE BLORTON.—He was Rector of Swynnerton, having been admitted thereto in 1338 on the presentation of the patron Sir Robert de Swynnerton (Priest) then Lord of Swynnerton. He belonged to a family seated at Blurton in Trentham from very early times, perhaps an offshoot of the lords of Cocknage in the same parish. In 20 Edw. II., 1327, Wm. Jorsse, lord of Hanchurch, gave Wm. de Blorton all his claim to an oxgang of land and a messuage in Hanchurch, the witnesses being Sir Roger de Swynnerton, Ralph Lord of Whitmore, and Ralph le Burgylon, etc.

In 20 Edw. III., 1346, there is a *de Banco* suit showing that "Wm. de Blorton, Parson of the Church of Swynnerton," had some interest in a mill at Bagenholt as well as "Adam his brother," and that "John son of Thomas de Blorton," had an interest in a mill in Bagenholt and Longton. A deed is referred to with Ralph Burgylon as chief witness.[1]

In this suit Ralph Burgilon (of Longton) would come in as chief tenant there.

In the British Museum there is extant an original letter on a scrap of parchment to Walter Bishop of Lichfield, in which his humble and devoted Roger de Swynewerton,

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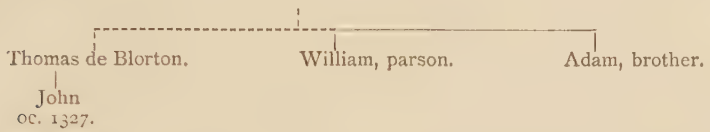
[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XII, p. 56.

knight (*miles*), presents to the episcopal intuitive paternity of charity, John de Blorton, Clerk, his Deacon (*meum Deaconum*) for the Order of Priest, etc. Dated from Swynewerton the Thursday after St. Bartholomew (Aug. 24), 1315.

This John was perhaps the John s. of Thomas, which might afford this tentative descent :—



William de Blorton was one of the three executors of the will of Sir Roger de Swynnerton (the "Baron") in 1338, the other two being the widow Maud [d. of Sir Rob. de Haughton] and Nicholas de Swynnerton, Dean of the King's Free Chapel of St. Mary, Stafford, the testator's younger brother.

William de Blorton died Rector of Swynnerton, the Thursday after St. Dunstan (7th Sept.), 1349.

Note.—The foregoing deed (No. 16) completes all those on the face of the Roll. Those *in dorso* are for the most part confirmations of land by the lords of Whitmore, and run in order as follows :—

1. (*In dorso.*) John lord of Whitmore enfeoffs Ad. s. of Jno. atte Townesend in 2 *placeis* of meadow, one called *Combeshurst*, in length from the land of said Adam to le *Cumbesiches*, and in breadth between the land of Master Jno. le Burgyloun on the one side and that of Jno. de Lymputtes and that of Rob. Stork on the other. The other place called the *Risenbachehurst* in length from the land of Hugh s. of Wm. de Lymputtes, up to the land of the said Adam, and in breadth between the land of Master Jno. le Burgyloun on the one side and that of Jno. de Lymputtes and *Pirlewallsiche* on the other.

Notes.—Most unfortunately none of the forty-seven transcripts on the back of the Roll have any test clauses, and only a few have dates. The period of this deed is fixed by the name "Magister John le Burgylon. See *infra*.

John Lord of Whitmore.—He succeeded his father John in or before 1275 as in that year his mother Agnes was suing for dower. The Hatfield copies of Whitmore deeds give Margery d. of Stephen de Swynnerton as his wife. This Stephen was called of Isewall in Eccleshall, and his son Roger, the brother of Margery, was that lord of Swynnerton who seems to have died in the Flanders expedition of 1297-8. They must have been married before 1274-5 the date of John the father's death, as I have in my possession an original deed which could not have passed after that date, and may belong to *circa* 1270, in which John the father, "lord of Wytmore," appears as second witness, the first being John lord of Swynnerton, and in which John de Whitmore the younger and Margery, the grantees of all the lands of "Robert son of Thomas of the Churchyard of Whitmore," occur as already married. John de Whitmore was succeeded by Ralph his s. and h. in or about 1303. The lords of Whitmore who are mentioned in the following transcripts stand related to each other thus ;—

John de Whitmore = Margery, d. of Stephen
oc. 1270-1302. de Swynnerton.
(*Deeds.*) (*Hatfield's MSS.*)

Ralph de Whitmore =
s. of John, oc. 1306-
1318; 1326. (*Deeds.*)

John de Whitmore =
s. of Ralph, oc.
1330. (*Hatfield.*)

For an account of Magister Jno. Burgylon see Section IV, p. 261.

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2. (*In dorso.*) Jno. lord of Whitmore enfeoffs Ralph his son and Adam s. of Jno. atte Townsende in one *placea* in Whitmore lying in *Baxstonehurst*, in length from the land of Rob. s. of Wm. de Bosco up to the land of Adam son of Alan, and in breadth between that of Ric. son of Wm. de Bromeleye on the one side and that of Elyas s. of Wm. de Bosco on the other.

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3. (*In dorso.*) Jno. de Whitmore, lord of Whitmore, enfeoffs Ad. s. of Jno. atte Townsende of Whitmore in 10 *placeis* of land, etc., in fee of W. of which—

(1) The first lies in the *Whitemor* which Ad. the chaplains once held in length between the waste of the lord and the *Scheteppleckes*, and in breadth from the land of Ric. de Bromleye to that of Hen. s. of Walter [de Whitemore].[1]

(2) The second lies at the *Scheteppleckes* in breadth between the lands of Ric. de Bromleye and of Ralph le Burgyloun on the one side and the lands of Ad. s. of Walter [de Whitemore] and of Roger s. of Agnes on the other, and in length from the land of Thom. de Lymputtes up to the land of Roger s. of the lord (*filii*).

(3) The third lies in the *Scheteppleckes* in breadth between the land of Roger de Trentham on both sides and in length from *Kysseplecke* up to the lands of Roger brother (*fratris*) of the lord.

(4) The fourth lies in the *Scheteffeld* in breadth between the *Scheteffeld* and the lands of Roger brother (*fratris*) of the lord and of Roger s. of Agnes, and in length from *Salescheteweye* up to the land of Rob. s. of William.

(5) The fifth lies in the *Mosseffeld* in breadth between the waste of the lord and *Blakedoneforlonge*, and in length from the land of Ad. Togod up to the land of Rob. s. of Wm.

(6) The sixth lies at *Becheffeld* in breadth between the land of the aforesaid Adam on the one side and the land of Hen. s. of Walter, and in length from the land of Hen. s. of Wm. up to the *Mossiche*.

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[1] See further on.

(7) The seventh lies in the waste of Whitmore in breadth between the land of Rob. s. of Wm. and the land of Rob. the Miller, and in length from *doyto* of the meadow up to *Medwodiche*.
(8) The eighth lies in *Banebrokeffeld* and is called *Echles* which Jno. atte Townsende held.
(9) The ninth lies at the head of the vivary of Whitmore as enclosed in foss and *doyto* (*in fossato et doyto*).
(10) The tenth lies in the *Byrcheleffeld* between the land of Ad. s. of Alan and that of the Rector of the Church of Whitemore, and in length between the land of Ad. s. of Alan and the Rector's land.

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4. (*In dorso.*) Jno. lord of Whitmore enfeoffs Ad. s. of Jno. atte Townsende in a *placea* lying in the *Risenbachehurst* in length from the land of Master Jno. le Burgiloun up to the land which Hen. s. of Walter once held, and in breadth between the land of Ralph s. of Steph. le Burgiloun and the land of Adam s. of Alan on the one side and the land of Wm. del Tofts on the other, videlicet, *Rivvulum* (or *Rinnulum*), and in one country ac. of land in two places, one half ac. in le *Mosseffeld* over *Hungrehull*, in breadth between the land of Wm. del Toftes on both sides, and in length from *Conteyatewey* up to the land which Thom. s. of Gilbert de Whitemor once held, and one half ac. lies in the *campum* of *Banebroke* in width between the land of the said Ad. on the one side, and the land which Agnes de Trentham once held on the other, and in length from *doyto* de Whitemor up to *Brendessedewey*.

Note.—These descents are here afforded :—

Gilbert de Whitmore.
|
Thomas de Whitmore
s. of Gilbert.

Agnes de Trentham ═
|
Roger de Trentham
s. of Agnes.
(See *Deed* 3 *dorso.*)

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5. (*In dorso.*) Jno. lord of Whitmor enfeoffs Adam s. of Jno. atte Townsende in 2 *placeis* lying in the *campum* of *Banebroke*, videl. the first place lies near *Goschull*, in breadth between the land of Jno. s. of Philip on both sides, and in length from the land of Jno. s. of Philip up to *Banebroke*, and the second which is called *Rowelowe* in length from the *Middelbreche* up to *Banebroke*, and in breadth between the land of John lord of Whitmore on the one side and that of Elyas Dobbsone on the other.

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6. (*In dorso.*) Jno. l. of Whitmore enfeoffs Ad. s. of Jno. atte Townsende of Whitmore in 5 country ac. of land and one *placea* of meadow, of which one ac. lies in the *campum* of *Byrcholes* in breadth between the land of Ad. s. of Alan on the one side and that of the rector on the other, and in length from the high road up to *Baldewyneforlong*, and one ac. in the Mosseffeld between the land of Rob. s. of Wm. s. of Jno. on the one side and "my" land on the other, and in length from "my" land up to the *Mosisiche*, and one ac. in *Wevreforlong* near "my" land on the one side and that of Ad. s. of Alan on the other, and in length from the land of the Rector on one side up to *Wevreforlong* on the other, and one ac. in breadth between the land of the Rector on one side and that of Wm. Batooles on the other, and a half ac. under *Brentedene* between the land of Wm. del Toftes and of Ad. del Toftes, and in length from the land of Roger le Bidulf to that of the Rector, and a half ac. upon *Middebruche* between Rob. s. of Wm. s. of John's land and that of Wm. del Toftes. Also the *placea* of meadow lies at the *Hongingegrene* between the meadow of Roger le Bidulf and the land of the Rector, and in length from the *doyt* to the *Hongingrene*.

7. (*In dorso.*) Jno. l. of Whitmore enfeoffs Ad. s. of Jno. atte Townsende in 3 *placeis* of land and one of meadow. One lies in *le Comhurst* between the land of Ad., etc., etc. (The interest is in the names which are) :—

Personal.	Place.
Wm. de Bromleye	The Comhurst.
Mast. Jno. le Burgiloun	The Byrchleffeld.
John de Lymputtes	The Mosfeld.
Roger le Bidulf	The Cunteyatewey.
Robert Johnson	The Akerdoles.
Jno. s. of Sweyn	The Meduebroke.

8. (*In dorso.*) From the same to the same. The only fresh names being :—

Personal.	Place.
Richard the Reeve (*Prepositus*).	The Daleschetewey.
Ralph s. of Steph. le Burgilon.	
Elyas s. of Robert.	

9. (*In dorso.*) The same to the same. Mentions Wm. de Toftes and Ad. de Toftes. Also the common road at the end of the vill of Whitemore. Gives leave to build houses and have outbuildings (*astros*) and to enclose the acre with hedge and ditch. Mentions Hugh and Wm. sons of Walter, Richard the Reeve, Rob. s. of Rob. the Miller, and Rob. Schert.

Of places it mentions *Cockeloweforlong* and *Smethheth*.

10. (*In dorso.*) The same to Wm. s. of Jno. atte Townsende, grant of a building site between the *Meduebroke* and the land Ad. Bercarius held of Elyas Dobbesone, extending from the top of the lane up to the *forcra* of Jno. s. of Walter. He gives also reasonable estover for peats to be dug for his fire.

11. (*In dorso.*) The same to the same. A meadow between that of Roger le Bidulf and that of Wm. de Bromleye extending from the *Meduebroke* in length to the *Meduedich*. Also a half land in the *campum* of *Banebrokeffeld-subtus-Weide* running from the Rector's land to *Bovecrepplecke* (*or Bouerepplecke*).

12. (*In dorso.*) The same to the same. One royal ac. in the *Risenbachehurst*, and also a country ac., etc. Also a *placea* lying at the *Hongingebruig* between the *Acredoles* and the land of Rob. son of Aggo.

13. (*In dorso.*) The same to Hugh s. of Jno. le Wylde of Whitmore, a messuage with a croft adjoining which Wm. s. of Wm. Carter owned between the land of Mast. Jno. le Burgiloun and that of Wm. atte Townesende, and in length from the lane and *toralis* (kiln) of Ad. Togod and so lineally by a certain ditch of Wm. to the ditch of Master John le B. and so on from his ditch to the ditch abutting on the lord's land.

14. (*In dorso.*) The same enfeoffs Ralph s. of Steph. le Burgyloun in a *placea* in the *Estereppleckes*. Mentions again "Roger brother of the lord of Whitemore," the *campum* called *Morseffeld* at *Richeffeld* which Ad. del Toftes, senior, held for a term, Ad. the Carter, "Henry and Adam sons of Walter de Whitemore," a selion called the *Morefeld* between the land of Rob. Carter and that of Matilda wife of John le Wylde extending in length from the land of "John s. of Walter the Reeve" up to the moor.

Notes.—13 and 14 give us—

John le Wylde = Matilda.

|

Hugh le Wylde.

Alan son of Jno. le Wylde occurs in a deed *circa* 1275 as holding land in Whitmore.[1]

In 20 Hen. III., 1235, Roger de Swynnerton released and manumitted his villain Henry le Wylde and his sequele from all manor of native and secular service, Henry paying his lord ten shillings sterling for his freedom.[2]

[1] (Hatfield.)

[2] Feet of Fines under date.

15. (*In dorso.*) The same to the same—two country ac. in the *Schitefeld*, mentions Ad. de Toftes, Wm. son of Sweyn, one Enik, the *ripa* which is called *Medowbroke*, a *placea* at *Richelispol* between the lord's brewery on the one side and *Coklowdale* on the other, and three selions at *Cunteyate* lying between the land of Elyas Dobbesone, and which abut on *Crounehull*.

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16. (*In dorso.*) The same to Wm. s. of Wm. de Bromeleye for homage and service one half ac. upon *Appleyflat* and a small placea in *Mosmor*, the rent being ij*d.* at the Feasts of the Lord and of John Baptist.

---

17. Ralph lord of Whitmore enfeoffs Elyas de Bromleye in all the land between the spring (*fontem*) of *Appeley* and the ditch, and all the meadow once held by Ad. de Bukkenale near the *Leebroke* in exchange for 3 ac. lying near the *Aspenwey* which "John my father gave to him for his homage and service," and for a meadow lying between *Willeleyefol* and . . . *brugge* —(rest obliterated).

Note.—Here we have—

John Lord of Whitmore.
|
Ralph s. of John,
Lord of Whitmore (*temp.* Edw. II.).

(*In dorso.*) *Item.* (Same Ralph de Whitmore to same) a *placea* formerly held by "Ad. s. of Rob. atte Wode de Whitemore," between *Madelediche* and the *Blakemor* and in length from the *Haystowe* up to the lane which Elyas s. of Wm. de Whitemore holds of the lord of Whitemore.

(*In dorso.*) *Item.* (Same Ralph) lands and tenements formerly held by the said Rob. (atte Wode) in Whitemore and Knotton, videl.—(the rest illegible).

Note.—A descent from No. 17—

William de Whitmere.
|
Elyas de Whitmore, son.

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18. (*In dorso.*) Jno. Lord of Whitmore son of Ralph formerly lord of Whitmore to Wm. s. of Wm. de Bromleye, clerk, all his right, etc., in all lands, etc., in Whitmore formerly acquired by Wm. de Bromleye, clerk, the father, namely in one *placea* near *Richelepol* in *le Mosfeld* which John de Mere once held, and in two 'londs' and four butts of land and two '*placeis*' of meadow, of which one 'lond' lies above *Hongerhull*, and another in *Brenteffeld* between the land which Wm. Sweyn once held and that of Rob. de Lymputtes, and the *placea* of meadow is in *Acresdoles* which John de Mere held, and the other *placea* in the *Hommedewo* which John de Mere held.

Note.—This gives us the next generation—

Ralph, lord of Whitmore (*temp.* Edw. II.).
|
John, lord of Whitmore, s. of Ralph (early Edw. III.).

John de Mere.—A John s. of Wm. de Mere occurs in the Pleas *temp.* Edw. II.

19. (*In dorso.*) Ralph le Burgyloun son of Steph. le Burgyloun enfeoffs Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, in one country ac. in Whitmore between the land of Wm. del Toftes and that which Hugh de Chauldon once held, and in length from the land of Walter Carpenter to that of Rob. de Bosco.

Notes.—We find in a deed in *Harl. MSS.* 506, William s. of Hugh s. of William de Chaveldon granting certain land in Chauldon to Thos. s. of Ric. de Swynnerton, the date being 17 Edw. III., 1343.

The first Wm. occurs as a witness in an earlier deed of 1291 (*Ibid.*). And in the *de Banco* Rolls we have Hugh son of Will. de Chaveldon occurring in 17 and 20 Edw. II., 1323 and 1326. Much earlier still we find a Hugh de Chaveldone witnessing a Whitmore deed of about 1272.

The date of this deed would be probably late in Edw. II. The Corbets were then the lords of Chauldon.

20. (*In dorso.*) *Item.* Walter s. of Robert Schert enfeoffs Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, in a selion of land in the *Shettepleckes* between the land of Jno. de Mere and that of Alan Breuster.

21. (*In dorso.*) Will. son of Walter de Wolverton enfeoffs Thomas de Stuche, lord of Botterton and of Stuche in a half burgage in Botterton with adjoining appurtenances, and in a half oxgang of land in the same vill in the *campum* of Botterton, in the *Lowefeld*, in the *Midelfeld* and in the *Thornefeld*, together with all his share in the waste of Botterton and Schertelyme.

Notes.—This looks merely like a recovery.

Will. s. of Walter de Wolverton.—These Wolvertons had rights in Botterton fairly early. An Alina de Wolverton is one of the thirteen free tenants in Butterton in 1278.[1] A Thomas de Wolverderton had land in Chorlton in 1291.[2] Earlier still in 1273 Thos. de Wolverton, Adam de Swinesheved, John s. of Elyas de Cherleton with thirteen others were the free tenants in Cherleton (Chorlton) and Chaveldon (Chauldon) under Nicholas the Prior and the Monks of St. Thomas by Stafford.[3]

22. (*In dorso.*) Endorsed *Quitclaim of John de Bromleye.* Thos. s. of Will. called the Barker (Tanner) of Newcastle-under-Lyme and John his son

[1] *Great Coucher Book*, R.O.
[2] *Erdeswick's Transcripts*, *Harl. MSS.* 506.
[3] *Ibid.*

enfeoff Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, in two messuages and the fourth part of five oxgangs and a half of land and in two country ac. of meadow, formerly belonging to Wm. atte Yatt of Botterton in Botterton. To hold, etc., IN EXCHANGE for one messuage and two curtilages and their other appurtenances in the vill of Newcastle once belonging to Roger Michel, and a *placea* of arable and one of meadow above Stu . . emor which Adam de ffolschawe and Margery his wife delivered to John de Bromeleye of the dower of the said Margery in Botterton, viz. in the *Lowefeld* xxvi selions, in the *Midelfeld* xxvi selions, in the *Thornefeld* xxvi selions, with the houses, gardens, and the third part of *Mabbescrofte* as well as with the grazings (*pascuis*) and wastes.

Notes.—This deed is interesting and like the former has to do with conveyancing. John de Bromley seems to have been selling all his interests to his brother William.

WM. ATTE YATT.—Wm. ad Portam appears here in his English dress. Porter or Gates might be his modern name.

ADAM DE FOLSHAWE.

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23. (*In dorso.*) Thomas son of Wm. de Stuche lord of Stuche in co. Salop holds himself bound for himself his heirs and executors to Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, the younger, his heirs, etc., in twenty pounds of silver on account of a loan, the said money to be paid on the feast of St. Michael next ensuing after the present arrangement, and unless he does so, he concedes hat there shall run on himself, his heirs, etc., the penalty and distraint provided in the Statute of the Lord King Edward *De Recognitione Debitorum Oneratorum* published at Acton Burnel.

Given at Salop the Saturday before St. Margaret the Virgin (July 20th) 16 Edw. III. 1342.

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24. (*In dorso.*) John s. of Wm. of (*de*) Bromeleye near Whitemore in co. Stafford acknowledges that he is bound for himself, his heirs, etc., to Wm. de Bromeleye, brother of the same John and to Joan the wife of the said William, their heirs, etc., in three hundred pounds of silver on account of a loan, the said money to be paid on Easter Day next ensuing after the present *confecio*, and unless he does so, he concedes that there shall run upon him, his heirs, etc., the penalty and distress provided in the Statute of the Lord King Edward *De Recognicione Debitorum Oneratorum*, promulgated at Acton Burnel.

Given at Salop on Tuesday, the Feast of St. Hillary the Bishop (Jan. 13th) 11 Edw. III., 1338.

Notes.—These two transcripts (23 and 24) are of the nature of bonds, and as it is scarcely likely that many bonds of the fourteenth century now survive it will be well to quote the *ipsissima verba* of one of them, No. 24.

Noverint universi me Johannem filium Willielmi de Bromeleye juxta Whitemore in com. Stafford teneri pro me, heredibus et executoribus meis, Willielmo de Bromeleye, fratris ejusdem Johannis, et Johanne uxori ejusdem Willielmi, heredibus,

et executoribus suis in trecentum libris argenti ex causa mutui, solvendo dictam pecuniam die Pasche proximo futurum post confecionem presentem, et nisi fecero, concedo quod currant super me et heredes et executores meos pena et districtio provise in Statuto Domini Regis Edwardi De Recognitione Debitorum Oneratorum apud Acton Burnel edito. Dat. Salop die Martis in festo St. Hillarii Episcopi anno after regni Regis Edwardi Fertii a Conquestu undecimo.

Notes.—The Statute of Merchants, promulgated by Edward I. at Acton Burnel after Michaelmas 11 Edw. I., 1283, and at Westminster 13 Edw. I., 1285.

This was a most stringent edict, the principal points in it being these following:—

1. The merchant can bring the debtor before the Mayor of the chief town, the debtor shall acknowledge the debt and the day for payment. Recognizance shall be enrolled.
2. If debt is unpaid and day of payment passes the Mayor shall imprison the debtor.
3. If debtor cannot be found, the Mayor shall send the recognizance to Chancery and a writ shall be issued to the Sheriff to arrest him.
4. Within three months after arrest his chattels shall be given to him to enable him to levy the sum.
5. It shall be lawful during the three months for the debtor to sell his lands to pay his debt.
6. If he does not pay up within the quarter next ensuing after the first quarter, it shall be lawful for the merchant to have delivery of his goods and to hold them until the debt is paid.
7. The merchant shall find him in bread and water while he is in prison.
8. As soon as the debt is paid the body of the debtor shall be delivered with his lands.
9. His sureties shall receives similar treatment if the debt be not paid.
10. The merchant shall have full seizin of all the debtor's lands that were his on the day of the recognizance.
11. And if the debtor die, the merchant cannot imprison the heir, but he can seize the lands all the same if, or as soon as, the heir is of age.

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25. (*In dorso.*) Wm. de Bromeleye, the elder, and Isabella his wife, etc., give to Wm. their son and to John his wife all their goods moveable and unmoveable, as well the growing corn on their lands as other goods existing in those lands and tenements, grazings, pastures, and woods, which the said Wm. their son holds of their gift in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Cnotton, and Whitemore, without any reserve. In witness, etc. (seal clause).

Given at Whitemore the Thursday after St. Barnabas, 11 June, 16 Edw. III., 1342.

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26. (*In dorso.*) (This is the only deed in the whole series which is written in French.)—William de Bromeleye the elder and Isabella his wife grant to Wm. their son and to Joan his wife and the heirs between them begotten that if the lands and tenements which they have in Botterton for the term of their two lives should be to lease during the said term, then the said Wm. and Joan and heirs of them begotten shall be entitled before all others to take them by giving as much as anyone else shall be willing to give: (In witness, etc.).

Written at Botterton, Thursday next after St. Barnabas (11th June), 16 Edw. III., 1342.

27. (*In dorso.*) "Bockenale." *Memorm.* Wm. de Bromeleye demises at farm to Jno. Lagowe a messuage and a *placea* of land called the *Oldefeld*, which Jno. Felkyn formerly held, from the Feast of St. Michael in the 22nd year of Edw. III. (1348) up to the end of twenty years, rendering annually 14 shillings of silver, at Michaelmas and the Annunciation by equal portions and six hens at Christmas.

28. (*In dorso.*) "Bokenale." The same William demised to Alan s. of John de Asshe a messuage and a *placea* of land called *Hulledesshmore* from the Feast of St. Michael 22 Edw. III. (1348) up to the end of twenty years. Annual rent 11 shillings at Michaelmas and the Annunciation and six hens *per annum* at Christmas.

29. (*In dorso.*) "Bokenale." The same William demised to Hen. de Blakelowe a messuage and a *placea* of land called the *Bentelegh* from Michaelmas 22 Edw. III. (1348), up to the end of twenty years. Annual rent 10*s.* 6*d.* at the same Feasts and 6 hens annually at Christmas.

30. "Bukenale." The same Wm. demised to John Aleyn of Bukenale a messuage and a *placea* of land called the *Mapelhurst* from Michaelmas 22 Edw. III. (1348), up to the end of 20 years. Annual rent nine shillings at the Feasts above said and 6 hens annually at Christmas.

Note.—These last are the short abstracts of four charters which prove that the Bromleys of Bromley in Newcastle were identical with the Bromleys of the Pleas having rights at Bucknall-by-Fenton and are therefore of corresponding importance.

31. (*In dorso.*) *Memorandum* that Rob. son of Rob., *Dominus de Knotton* enfeoffed Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, and his heirs in xv shillings and ix pence of annual rent to be received annually from certain tenements in Knotton, and in v pence of annual rent to be taken from the Prior of Trentham for his homage, as is contained in charters and writings *confectis*.

Notes.—Robert de Knotton the father was living in 21 Edw. I., 1292, when he with Ralph de Bromley and Agnes his wife gave half a mark for a writ of *Recordari* (which would enable them to transfer a suit from an inferior court to a higher court of record as the County Court). But he was dead in 14 Edw. II., 1320. When Agnes his widow was suing John le Burgoynon (the son of Master John le Burguillon[1]) and John s. of John de Swynnerton for one-third of an iron mill in Knotton which she claimed, with much else from Jas. de Audley, Wm. de Mere, and others, as her dower,[1] which she recovered the next year. The date of this deed therefore must be subsequent to 1320.

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. IX, p. 82.

Robert de Knotton = Agnes
ob. before 1320.
|
Robert de Knotton.

THE PRIOR OF TRENTHAM'S RENT.—This can only refer to the toft and the croft next the Whitmore churchyard, which was granted by Ralph de Cnutton to the Priory of Trentham in a deed which General Wrottesley assigned to the reign of Richard I., but which may possibly have passed in K. John's time.[1]

32. (*In dorso.*) "Botterton Woods." Thomas de Stuche has sold to Wm. de Bromeleye the whole of the timber growing in his demesne of Botterton, viz. in *Jackefeld*, in *the Furlonge*, in *the Holt*, and in *the Hikholm*, and with a certain *summa fructmororum* (? crop of mulberries) in his orchard, on the Wednesday next before Easter in the year of the reign of King Edward the Third the vii^mo^ (7 Edw. III, 1333).

The said wood to be carried within xviij years from the aforesaid date.

33. (*In dorso.*) Thomas de Dutton, kt., enfeoffs Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, in one half burgage in the town of Newcastle-under-Lyme, which is situated in the *Netherstrete* between the land and house of Wm. son of Adam on the one side and the house and land of Thomas Forester on the other, and in length from the *High Road* up to the land of Lord Thomas Lancaster.

34. (*In dorso.*) Thomas Lord of Stuche and of Botterton enfeoffs Wm. de Bromeleye the Younger in one half bovate of land with the meadow adjacent and their appurtenances in Botterton, which he had by the gift and feoffment of Wm. son of Walter de Wolvertone.

Given in 16 Edw. III. (1342).

35. (*In dorso.*) Nicholas son of Adam le Bedel of Madeleye under Lyme, etc., etc. (as in Deed 3).

36. (*In dorso.*) Adam son of Ralph de Whitemore formerly brother (*fratris*) of the lord of Whitemore and Roger his brother release to Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, and to Wm. his son, all right, etc. in six royal ac. of land in Whitemore in a certain *placea* which is called the *Trogheweye*.

Given at Newcastle-under-Lyme 1 Edw. III. (1327).

Notes.—From this deed we have the following descent :—

|
John, lord of Whitmore, oc. 1272-1296, 1302 (Plea Rolls).
|
Ralph, lord of Whitmore, oc. 1306-1318.

Ralph his brother, oc. 1296 as "*brother*" (*Ibid.*).
|
Adam de Whitmore s. of Ralph, oc. 1327.

Roger brother of Adam, oc. 1327.

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XI, p. 332.

37. (*In dorso.*) Joan formerly wife of Hen. s. of Walter de Whitemore, in her widowhood, enfeoffs Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, in the whole of her share in one *placea* of land in the fee of Whitemore, lying in the *Mossefeld*, viz. in *Coksdale*, in width between the land of Hen. s. of Rob. Veel on the one side and *Hennefeld* on the other, and in length from *Richclippole* up to Cunteyateweye.

Given at Whitemore 11 Edw. III. (1337).

Note.—This deed and deed 14 (*dorso*) supply the following :—

Walter de Whitmore.

Henry de Whitmore = Joan, rel. in 1337. | Adam de W., s. of Walter. *Deed* 14.
s. of Walter.

38. (*In dorso.*) Jno. de Whitemore lord of Whitemore enfeoffs Wm. s. of Wm. de Bromeleye in one *placea* of land called the *Cleylege*. Annual rent vi*d.*

39. (*In dorso.*) The same John enfeoffs the same William in one *placea* of land called *the Legh*. Annual rent vi*d.*

40. (*In dorso.*) Wm. son of William de Bromeleye enfeoffs Wm. de Bromeleye his father and Isabella his wife for their whole life in one messuage with the buildings thereupon. Similarly in all lands, tenements, etc., etc., which the said Wm. had within the fee of Newcastle-under-Lyme, well in the fee of Whitemore as elsewhere, the aforesaid Wm. and Isabella rendering annually to the said Wm., his heirs, etc., for the whole life of Wm. and Isabella sixteen shillings and sixpence of silver at the four usual terms constituted within the Manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

41. (*In dorso.*) Ralph Burgiloun the Younger enfeoffs Wm. de Bromeleye the Younger in one messuage, two oxgangs, and 14 ac. of land, one ac. of meadow, six ac. of pasture, two ac. of wood, with appurtenances, in Whitemore and Swynnerton.

42. (*In dorso.*) *Item.* Ralph lord of Whitemore enfeoffs Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, in two *placeis* of meadow in Whitemore lying in the *Hallemore* between the land of the said Wm. and the brook (*ductum*) which runs from *Cressewalle* towards Whitemore from all sides. Annual rent one stick of ginger at Christmas.

43. (*In dorso.*) *Item.* Ralph de Burgyloun enfeoffs Wm. son of Wm. de Bromeleye for the term of eight years in the whole of the arable land within the fee of Whitemore subscribed, viz. one *placea* of land called *Richclippol* lying between the brewery and Richclippol (*sic*) and a half *lond*

in the same *campum* extending towards the *Mossefeld*, and one *placea* of eight selions in *the Holt* and one *lond* in the same *campum* extending up to *Mideldych*, and two butts lying at *Sulteyate*, and one *lond* in the *Birchfeld* athwart the *Crosweye*, and one *lond* of land athwart the *Crosdale*, and one *lond* of land athwart the *Bircholes*, and one royal ac. in the *Shortewode* in the *Newefeld*, and two *londs* at the *Hechelys* in the *campum* of *Banebroke*, and one *placea* in *Stildale* extending up to *Banebroke*.

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44. (*In dorso.*) Thos. de Borwasleg, Chaplain, enfeoffs Wm. son of Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, in five ac. in Shortelyme in length from the land of Elyas de Bromeleye up to that of Reginald de Poddemore, and in breadth from the land of Roger S. Simon de Trentham up to the bounds of Swynnerton. Annual rent six shillings of silver at the Manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Notes.—The date of this deed must be prior to 1303 as Reginald de Poddemore was then dead.

In Simon de Trentham I see the husband of Agnes. Hence this descent.

Simon de Trentham = Agnes.

Roger de Trentham.

But a Roger de Trentham had land in Whitmore and Shortelyme *circa* 1284 (original deed of Roger de Swynnerton to Jno. de Whitmore).

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45. (*In dorso.*) John lord of Whitemore enfeoffs Ralph s. of Steph. le Burgynoun in a *placea* of land lying in the *Esteteplecke*s in length from the land of Adam Carter up to the land of Adam de Sideweye, and in width between the land of Roger brother of the lord of Whitemore and that of Ric. de Sideweye. And one *placea* of meadow in le *Mosefeld* at *Richclippol* between the land of Ad. del Toftes and that of Ad. Cartar, and in length from the land of Hen. and Adam sons of Walter de Whitemore up to the *Mosfeld*, and one *lond* of land in *Banbroke* between the land of Rob. s. of Wm. Johnson, and that of Ad. Cartar, and in length from the land of Adam Cartar to that of Rob. Sherte. And one selion of land in *le Mossefeld* between the land of Rob. Cartar and that of Matilda wife of John the Wylde.

Note.—The date of this deed would be about 1295.

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46. (*In dorso.*) Steph. le Burgyloun is enfeoffed by Jno. de Whitemore in two country ac. of land in Whitemore in the *Schortefeld* between the land of Ad. del Toftes and that which Wm. son of Sweyn formerly held, and in one *placea* at *Richcleppol* between the *Brewery of Whitemore* and *Coksdale*, and in three selions of land at *Cunteyate* lying next the land of Elyas Dobbeson, and they abut upon *Brumehull*.

Notes.—Deeds 41 and 45 afford the following :—

Ralph Burgylon,
the elder (of Longton).
|
Ralph Burgylon,
the younger (of Longton).

Stephen Burgylon.
|
Ralph Burgylon
son of Stephen.

Deed 45 gives :—

(Margery Swynnerton) = John, lord of Whitmore (oc. 1284-1303).

Roger, his brother.

47. (*In dorso.*) Wm. atte Townesende de Whitemore enfeoffs Wm. de Bromeleye, clerk, and heirs of his body, etc., in two *londs* and a half with 4 *placeis* of meadow in Whitemore lying in *Banebrokeffeld* of which one lies above the *Midelbrucheforlong* between the land of Roger le Bidolph and the land of Richard s. of Alan, and in length from *Smetheheyt* up to Lecheles which Jno. s. of Wm. Were holds for term of years, and the half *lond* lies in the same *campum* between the land of the Rector of the Church of Stoke and the land of the aforesaid Richard, and in length from *Smethhethe* up to Lecheles, viz., that which Ric. s. of Alan holds for a term of years, and the other *lond* in the some *campum* lies between the land of Robert the Miller and the land of Adam s. of Alan, and in length from *Brendeversewey* up to the land of Hugh s. of Walter, while the aforesaid *placee* of meadow lie in the meadow land of Whitemore, viz. one between the meadow of Ralph s. of Rob. Agge and the *Acresdoles*, and the second *placea* lies between the duct and the *Acresdoles*. And the third *placea* lies between the meadow formerly John the Smith's and the meadow of Wm. de Bromeleye, and the fourth *placea* lies between the meadow of Master John le Burgyloun and the meadow of the aforesaid William (de Bromeleye).

And be it noted that the two *londs* and a half with the four *placee*, etc., are held by me William the Clerk.

Note.—The whole of these deeds have been copied out in their original Latin *in extenso*, and are being bound, to be deposited, with the permission of the Trustees, in the William Salt Library, Stafford, for reference.

III. THE BROMLEYS OF BROMLEY IN WHITMORE.

It is evident that Chetwynd, when he drew up his pedigree of the Bromleys of Bromley *juxta* Ashley, in the manor of Eccleshall, did not know of the existence, the separate existence that is, of the neighbouring Bromleys of Bromley *juxta* Lyme within the Manor of Newcastle, and I cannot help thinking that he has mixed up the two families in the descent which he gives. (See *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XII, N.S., p. 259.) He there makes a certain Richard de Bromley, who according to Erdeswick and himself married in 35 Edw. I., 1306, an heiress of Knotton, a younger son of Sir Geoffrey de Bromley *juxta* Ashley.[1] I do not think this was the case. It does not follow that the Bromleys of Newcastle were not connected with the Bromleys of Eccleshall, though the latter were a knightly family and the former not so. To disentangle the two families, the one from the other, with absolute certainty, is a little difficult, but by no means impossible, and the evidences now available will tend to solve an obscure but very interesting problem in the history of North Staffordshire.

There cannot be a doubt that the Bromleys of Bromley within the Manor of Newcastle were descended from "Helyas de Bromley," who was one of eleven free tenants of Newcastle and Eccleshall appointed to report on the lands of William Muriel of Newcastle and Eccleshall, deceased, in 37 Hen. III., 1252. In the recorded list the Newcastle tenants come first, the Eccleshall men next. It is a curious thing that the name of Helyas de Bromley comes last of the Eccleshall tenants, which suggests the surmise that, if the Bromleys of Newcastle were of common

[1] *N.B.*—Neither Erdeswick nor Chetwynd *say* that Richard was of the Eccleshall stock. But Chetwynd's pedigree, as transcribed by Mr. Parker, gives him that descent.

origin with the Bromleys of Eccleshall, that common origin must be looked for through this "Helyas de Bromley."[1]

Another Inquisition made much later in the same reign concerning the value of Newcastle and the manor thereof gives us among the jurors, all of whom are Newcastle tenants, the names of 'William de Bromlee' and 'Elyas de Bromlee.' I do not suppose that this Elyas de Bromley is identical with the former Helyas de Bromley, but I believe the two William and Elias to have been the sons of the latter.

Again, in a similar Inquisition concerning the soke of Newcastle, dated 25 Edw. I., 1296, we find second in the list of jurors "Ely de Bromlegh." This "Elyas de Bromleye" is described as "of Whitmore," in a plea of land made by Alianora widow of John son of Robert de Whitmore in 28 Edw. I., 1300.[2] He was returned as recently dead in a suit of Hillary Term, 2 Edw. II., 1308.[3]

And of the above-mentioned William we read that in 10 Edw. I., 1282, William de Bromley and William de Whitemor it was who, as the sureties of Richard de Bromley, were *in misericordia* to the amount of 100*s.* for damages done by Richard's cattle depasturing in the Templars' growing corn at Keele.[4]

This William de Bromley (I) had a son William (II), and the Roll tells us that William de Bromley (II) married an heiress of lands in Butterton. Hatfield's copies of Whitmore deeds at Stafford tell us who she was, for among them there is a deed dated St. Matthew's Day, 1296, in which John Lord of Whitmore, whose wife as we learn from another Whitmore deed was Margery, a daughter of Stephen de Swynnerton of Isewell, and sister of Roger de Swynnerton the then lord of Swynnerton confers on William the clerk, son of William de Bromleye, and

[1] I think his father's name was certainly William (*cf.* pedigree), and if so he may possibly be identified with Sir William de Bromley, Kt., of Bromley in Eccleshall, who much earlier in the century, *circa* 1230, is a witness to a *Whitmore* deed (Hatfield's *MSS.* at Stafford), and who also witnessed Henry de Audley's Foundation deed of Hulton Abbey in 1223, as well as a Chell deed of Henry de Audley about the same time. (*Staff. Hist. Coll.* for 1911, p. 444.)

[2] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VII, p. 65.

[3] *Ibid.*, Vol. X, pp. 5 and 6.

[4] *Ibid.*, Vol. VI, Part 1, pp. 121–2.

on Isabella his wife, daughter of WILLIAM ad PORTAM of BOTTERTON, a *placea* of land in Whitmore, rent 16 pence of silver at the four terms. This William ad Portam, or atte Yatt, was one of the thirteen free tenants of Butterton mentioned in the convention made between Edmund Earl of Lancaster and Sir John de Swynnerton, Kt., of Swynnerton, concerning the waste of Schertelyme in 1278.[1] He had a son Thomas, who apparently died without issue, so that Isabella atte Yatt the sister succeeded to her father's lands in Butterton as well as to whatever other lands he held in Chorlton.[2]

Of William de Bromley, we read further that previously to 1305 (34 Edw. I.) he had been gaoler at Stafford, that is, of the King's Castle there, and that he was charged with procuring false witness to extort bribes,[3] and the next year, 1306, guilty of a forest trespass, his sureties being John de Whitemore and Richard de Verney (of Madeley).[4]

The kalendar of Juries of co. Stafford of the Quindene of Easter, 1307, under the Foreign Liberty of Newcastle, meaning the Manor, mentions him again, as well as two other Bromleys, in order thus—Ralph de Bromley, William de Bromleye and Elias de Bromley.[5]

As regards Richard de Bromley, *temp.* Edw. I., we learn from the Whitmore transcripts at Stafford that his wife's name was Margery.[6] We have also in the same collection two deeds concerning an exchange of land in Whitmore (with precise mention of the *Campum quod vocatur Bromleye*) between two brothers, WILLIAM SON OF ELYAS DE BROMLEY and RICHARD SON OF ELYAS DE BROMLEY, which deeds of exchange must have passed in late Hen. III. or quite early in Edw. I., the witnesses being William de Chatculne, Elyas de Cherleton, John de Bromleye, William de Bosco and Elyas his brother.[7] He also appears in an original

[1] *Great Coucher Book, R.O.*
[2] *Harl. MSS.* 506.
[3] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VII, p. 167.
[4] *Ibid.*, p. 170.
[5] *Ibid.*, p. 175.
[6] A deed in which Isabella relict of Robert de Bosco gave a *placea* in Whitemor *Ricardo de Bromleye et Margerie uxori sue*, the date being *circa* 1275.
[7] Wm. de Chatculne had a brother called in one deed "Thomas de Chatculne," and in another "Thomas de Offley brother of Wm. de Chatculne."

deed which I saw and copied, concerning a grant of land in the fee of Swynnerton lying in *Schertelune* from Roger de Swinnerton to John de Witemore, which may have passed about 1284, perhaps a little later. The witnesses may be here mentioned as throwing a side-light on the subject of this article. They are Sir Rob. de Stawndon, Sir Wm. de Mere, Sir Robert de Bromlegh, Knights, and Robert lord of Cotes (being evidently witnesses from Roger's side, and then from John de Whitmore's side) "*Master John le Burgulon*, RICHARD DE BROMLEGH, and *Reginald de Poddemore*."

As we shall presently show, Richard had a son Ralph, and here, in this Richard, I think we have the Richard who according to Erdeswick and Chetwynd married an heiress of Knutton, and who, *jure uxoris*, according also to Mr. Wedgwood, left rights in that manor to Ralph his son.[1]

The connection at present is not absolutely clear, but we may compare the following :—

In 56 Hen. III., 1272, the Assize Court jury return that, of Sergeanties, Peter de Arderne, John de Uffeley (Offley), and Robert de Knotton hold the Manor of Knotton.[2] The manor is in fact tripartite, and as the last of the Knottons left three sisters coheiresses, Alice, Christine and another, we naturally suspect that these three tenants hold the *status* respectively of the three sisters. Later, however, in the century, in 25 Edw. I., 1296, the three lords of Knutton, subject to precisely the same services, are Peter de Arderne, RALPH DE BROMLEYE, and Robert de Knotton.[3] The Ralph de Bromley in 1296 has the *status* apparently of John de Offley of 1272. So far as it goes, this is evidence that his father Richard had married a daughter and heir of John de Offley of Knutton, and this may be the key to the mystery.

(Original deeds at Charnes.) Harking further back we have in 1 John, 1200, Stephen de Chatkiln identical with Stephen de Hatton (*cf. Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. III, pp. 56 and 65). The father of Stephen was named Robert, and, says Canon Bridgeman, he was probably a kinsman of Robert lord of Swynnerton, Hatton being a member of Swynnerton. This is a good average example of interlacing families, apparently quite distinct, traceable to a common source.

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XI, N.S., p. 247.

[2] *Ibid.*, Vol. IV, p. 213.

[3] *Ibid.* of 1912, p. 246.

John de Offley remains an undetermined puzzle. No doubt he was the same JOHN DE OFFLEY who with Alexander de Banville was attorney of Philippa de Dutton (*née* Standon) in 1272 when she was maintaining her right to her son Thomas' custody as the nearest of kin in respect to the manor of Fenton which was held of the crown in soccage, and when Robert de Standon (her brother) claimed that right as holding that same land *in capite* of the King, both of them as against Amice de Verdun who perhaps claimed custody on account of some tenement in Bucknall-near-Fenton which was appurtenant to the barony of Alton.[1] As already stated I have an idea that the Tofts and the Offleys of Knutton were the same. If these Offleys held land in Maer, then it is not too great an extravagance to surmise that Alexander de Banville (whatever Banville may stand for) and John de Offley were identical with Alexander de Mere and John de Mere who were closely connected with Philippa de Dutton at Maer, a four-fold manor, part of which was her own. And the roll now under consideration reveals the fact that a John de Mere was a tenant in Knutton (Whitmore) in the time of Edward I. These, however, are merely conjectures thrown out for others to pursue.

As regards the parentage of Ralph de Bromley, we have the positive evidence of the *Coram Rege* Roll of 32–3 Edw. I. (1303–4) where RALPH SON OF RICHARD DE BROMLEGH, John de Bromlegh, and *William son of William de Bromlegh of Whitmore*, with Ralph de Hextal, were summoned by the Abbot of Deulacres in a plea of conspiracy and trespass.[2]

The conspiracy and trespass committed in 1303 most likely concerned Robert le Burgilon, who as Abbot of Deulacress made a grant of land in March 1302.[3] Robert le Burgilon was no doubt a kinsman of the Burgylons of Whitmore, and the Bromleys and the Burgylons as the Roll informs us had lawsuits over land.

But howsoever it may stand with Richard the father, there can be no doubt that Ralph the son, in his turn, also married an heiress of lands in Knutton, and of lands in Dimsdale, Whitmore,

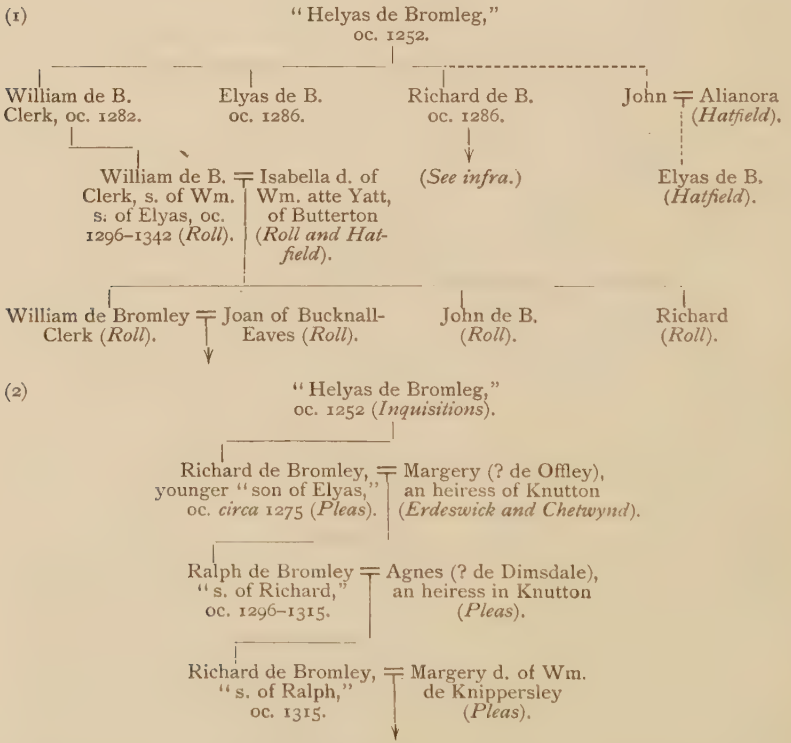
[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. IV, p. 207.
[2] *Ibid.*, Vol. VII, p. 134.
[3] *Ibid.*, Vol. for 1911, p. 433.

and Hanford, members of Knutton, as the following references prove :—

1. In 1306 Ralph de Bromleye and *Agnes his wife* grant a bovate of land in Dimmesdale to Richard de Delves, to hold of the chief lords.

2. In 1315 Ralph de Bromleye and *Agnes his wife* levied a fine by which they settled 15 ac. of pasture, 56*s.* 5½*d.* of rent, and one third of a mill,[1] in Knutton Whitemore, Honford, and Dimmesdale on themselves, with remainder to RICHARD SON OF RALPH, and the heirs which Richard shall have by Margery, daughter of William de Knippersley, and in default to *the right heirs of Agnes*.[2]

From all these combined evidences, and from the Roll, we derive the following pedigrees :—



[1] Either Agnes holding one-third of the Knutton mill was a widow when she married Ralph, or else two other ladies, widows, were holding the other two-thirds in dower.

[2] *Staff. Hist. Coll.* of 1911, pp. 65 and 85.

Now here in *Pedigree* 2 we have the precise three generations —Richard—Ralph—Richard—recorded by Chetwynd, and the conclusion seems irresistible that the Bromleys who became co-lords of Knutton were men, not of the Eccleshall, but of the Whitmore family of that name. It also follows that the date of Richard de Bromley's marriage with the Knutton heiress must have been much earlier than the date 35 Edw. I., as given by Chetwynd.

And now comes a development. Our old Bromley Roll reveals the fact that these Newcastle Bromleys, to be exact William de Bromley the husband of Joan, had manorial rights *jure uxoris* in Bucknall-by-Fenton. For in it we find that in 22 Edw. III., 1348, William de Bromeleye demised at farm a messuage and a *placea* of land in "Bockenale" to John Lagowe, and that in the same year, by separate instruments, as we have seen above, he farmed out similar holdings to "John del Asshe," "Henry de Blakelowe," and "John Aleyn of Bukenale," the aggregate rent being 44*s.* 6*d.*, such rents varying from fourteen shillings to nine and sixpence at two terms, and six hens at Christmas.

Corroboration and a perfect blaze of illumination come from the Plea Rolls. Thus :—

De Banco. Easter 12 Edw. III., 1338, *Staff.*—Benedicta, formerly wife of John de Chauldon, not appearing to prosecute her suit against *William son of William de Bromleye* and *Joan his wife* for a messuage and two carucates of land in *Bukkenhale near Fenton*, the suit was dismissed. *Mem.* 245.

Joan then was not the only lady who at that time, or just before, had rights in Bucknall *juxta* Fenton. But besides Joan and Benedicta there was a third, namely, Cicely daughter of David de Newenham[1] whose son Hugh was claiming rights in this manor as against Benedicta in 5 Edw. III., 1331. How these ladies, apparently coheiresses, were related I know not, but at any rate Joan the wife of William de Bromley of Newcastle, the younger, was an heiress in Bucknall-by-Fenton.

Passing on to 39 Edw. III., 1365, we find the superior lord of

[1] This must be Newnham near Bedford, and if so David de Newnham would be identical with David de Flitwick whose name occurs in co. Staff. at this time. (Reference mislaid.) *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XI, p. 62.

this Bucknall Manor to be Bartholomew de Burghershh,[1] a great hero in the French Wars, under whom "John de Swynnerton son of Roger de Swynnerton," Escheator of Staffordshire, was present in the 3rd (King's) Division of the army at Cressy. In that year John de Delves, Kt. Complainant, and Bartholomew de Burgershh, Kt., Defendant, had plea concerning the manor of Buckenale. Bartholomew acknowledged the manor to be the right of John de Delves excepting 40*s.* rent, and he further granted him the said rent with the homages and services of all the tenants and their heirs for all the tenements of the said manor which they held of Bartholomew, for which grant John gave Bartholomew 200 marks of silver.[2]

Now in this suit the names of the tenants are given, being thirty in number, and among them we find three of the four names mentioned in the "Bokenale" deeds of the roll now under consideration, namely, Jn. del Asshe (Stephen instead of John as being a generation later), de Blakelowe (William for Henry), and John Aleyn (now John s. of Henry Aleyn). Perhaps also the 40*s.* rent treated of separately in the Plea may represent the 44*s.* 6*d.* rent mentioned in the Roll.

Of the subsequent descendants of the Bromleys of Bromley in Whitmore I have no knowledge. I commend the continued story to other hands. One point, however, is worthy of record, which is that for some centuries the Bromleys maintained their hold on tenements in Whitmore, as yeomen, husbandmen, and so forth. And Bromley continued to be their home, as we learn in one entry at least early in the 16th century, as follows:—

Whitmor.—On the Saturday next after St. Mark, 1 Hen. VIII., 1509, Robert Spalt lodged a complaint in the Manor Court against Roger Swynnerton and "JOHN BROMLEY OF BROMLEY," for some offence in regard to customs.[3]

And these Bromleys of a later age were beyond a doubt descendants of "Elyas de Bromleg" of 1252.

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XI, p. 175.

[2] *Ibid.*, p. 175. Bartholomew de Burgershh the younger had married Elizabeth, one of the three coheirs of the last Lord of Alton, to which barony this Bucknall was appurtenant.

[3] *Newcastle Manor Court Rolls, R.O.*

IV. THE BURGULONS (*ALIAS* BURGOYNION, *ALIAS* BURGOYNE, ETC.) OF NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

This Burgundian family (as the name seems to imply) were in North Staffordshire from very early times, and may have held a tenement *in soccage* somewhere within the extensive manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme or else hard by. Though their history has yet to be written, we will set down here such evidences as are available at the present time, taking them generation by generation.

FIRST GENERATION.

In or about the year 1210, in K. John's time, WILLIAM BURGILON (I) is witness, with Sir Rob. de Mere, Adam de Audley, and others, to a deed of Geoffrey Griffin of Clayton Griffin, conveying his manor of Elkesdon to the monks of Trentham.[1]

SECOND GENERATION.

Probably a son, or perhaps a grandson of his, another WILLIAM LE BURGULLON (II), is also witness to a Trentham deed, which bears date 39 Hen. III., 1255, touching a land and road dispute between Roger, Prior of Trentham, and Simon, Abbot of Hulton.[2]

He it was apparently who first, among the Burgylons, obtained a firm footing in the manor of Whitmore. And there cannot be much doubt that he advanced himself thus by marrying the widow of Ralph de Whitmore, lord of Whitmore, the mother of his heir John de Whitmore, sometime before January, 1243. Her name seems to have been Emma, perhaps Emma de Chatesdene. Besides her dower lands both in Whitmore and also in Chorlton she seems to have had rights of

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XI, p. 332. [2] *Ibid.*, p. 315.

her own inheritance at Chatesdene, which doubtless helped to aggrandize the Burgylons, for we find William Burgillun and *Emma his wife* suing, at Derby, Thomas de Chatesdene to complete a chirograph concerning two oxgangs of land, and two acres in that manor.[1] Whitmore being held *in soccage* the custody of the heir belonged to the nearest of kin who could not inherit. But that nearest of kin was the heir's own mother,[2] and yet we find that when the men of Whitmore complained to the King of his exactions, William le Burgullon explains that he is himself the *custos* of the heir, justifying himself on that ground and pleading that the manor is no longer ancient demesne of the Crown.[3] I believe that he married John de Whitmore's mother, and so acquired the custody of the heir, but that he had issue by her is not so apparent. (See *infra.*)

In 1253 William le Burgulon appears where we should expect to find him, namely as a witness to the Charter of Alice Lady of Knotton and John de Legh her husband, in which she confirms to John s. of Ralph de Whitmore his mill and his lands in Whitmore.[4]

THE THIRD GENERATION.

The line is represented in this generation, and represented at Whitmore, by three (? sons), Roger, John, and William le Burgylon. Of these WILLIAM was a witness to the deed (*circa* 1272) by which Robert s. of Thomas de Whitmore of the Churchyard made a grant of land to John s. of John de Whitmore, and Margery d. of Stephen de Swynnerton, his wife. He witnesses also another Whitmore deed which passed rather earlier. But he was dead, apparently without issue, in 1275, when Roger Burgilon is withholding the dower of Agnes, John de Whitmore's mother, on the ground that Ralph, the grandfather of John the heir, had enfeoffed him in

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. IV, p. 137.

[2] A precisely similar case in 10 Hen. V. is that of "Agnes widow of John Draycote of Draycote *held in soccage*, who is returned as guardian of Roger s. and h. of John Draycote, inasmuch as she was the nearest of kin to whom the manor could not descend." *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XVII, pp. 85–6.

[3] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. IV, p. 97.

[4] *Whitmore Evidences* at Stafford.

his tenement at Whitmore, and that, though he had alienated a portion of it to *William le Burgilon*, William had since died, and so that portion had reverted to him: and he called to warranty the young John, Ralph's grandson.[1]

ROGER LE BURGYLON. I believe him to have been the eldest, probably by a former wife, and if I am right as regards the marriage of William le Burgylon (II), he must have been uncle at least by marriage to the young John lord of Whitmore who married Margery Swynnerton. With Margery's father Stephen, he was sued by Agnes for dower as already stated. He is often found associated with Roger de Swynnerton, Margery's brother, as for instance, as witness to a deed of Roger, dated about 1284, granting certain land in Schortelyme in the fee of Swynnerton to Margery's husband John de Whitmore.[2] And when Nicholas de Audley, and the two brothers Roger lord of Swynnerton, and John de Swynnerton of Isewall in Eccleshall, followed Edward I. on his expedition to Flanders in 1297, Roger le Burgelun went with them as comrade-in-arms.[3] And from the campaign in Flanders he came safely back, and his position in the manor of Newcastle, and his connection therewith are further emphasized in 1299 (Epiphany, 21 Edw. I.), when with Nicholas de Thykness he stands security in the sum of ten marks for Henry le Barbour of Newcastle, the Steward of the Staffords' manor of Madeley, who, though he had been acquitted for having beheaded Richard of the Brokhurst, an alleged robber, had been arrested and fined for other enormities.[4] In a Trentham deed of 1299, we find him again associated with John de Whitmore as a witness concerning some Blurton lands.[5]

JOHN LE BURGYLON. We now come to John whom I assume to be a younger brother of Roger. He generally appears as *Magister Johannes le Burgylon*, as for instance

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VI, pp. 67, 70, 75.

[2] A deed in original in Mr. Jos. Mayer's collection seen and copied by me.

[3] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VIII, p. 44.

[4] *Ibid.*, Vol. VI, Part 1, pp. 281–2.

[5] *Ibid.*, Vol. XI. There was also in that generation a Stephen de Burgilon who witnesses a Whitmore deed of about 1290, and to whose son Ralph John Lord of Whitmore makes a grant. (*Whitmore Evidences* at Stafford, and see also deed No. 14 *in dorso* of the Roll.) Stephen was probably a fourth brother.

several times in the foregoing Bromley roll. He was not necessarily a priest, though he was a clerk. He was perhaps one of those *proborum et legalium hominum* referred to in a Newcastle deed of 1278, one who had studied at Universities and taken his Master's Degree, a man of parts and learning in fact. And he figures in Staffordshire history as having acquired the *mesne* lordship over the manor of Knutton. The proof of this is that he made a grant to the monks of Trentham of 13*s.* 4*d.*, service due to him from the manor of Clayton Griffin, a member of Knutton, together with the fealty. Now this sum of 13*s.* 4*d.* was the precise service by which the old lords of Clayton, the Griffins (who had been ruined by that fraternity), held their manor under the former lords of Knutton. Corroboration is found in the Plea Rolls. In 1303 he paid half a mark for licence of accord with Peter de Arderne respecting tenements in Knotton, and in the next year, 1304, we learn how William del Tofts, and John de Ireton with Agnes his wife were distrained by the Sheriff to appear and show by what services they held of Peter de Arderne in *Knotton,* which services Peter had conceded to "Magister John le Burguillon."

This was in 1304. But as already seen the manor of Knutton in 1296 was held by Peter de Arderne, Ralph de Bromley, and Robert de Knotton, and held conjointly by the usual services due *in capite* to the Earls of Lancaster. In subsequent suits while both the Ardernes and the Knottons appear Bromley does not, and it really seems as though Master John le Burgylon in some way representing Ralph de Bromley had bought out the interests of the two other coparceners in the *mesne* lordship of the manor, and so acquired it. Certainly the connection between the Burgylons and the Bromleys in matters of land as revealed in the Roll is so intimate as to suggest such a resolution of the problem.[1] Or it may be that the royalty of the manor pertained only to Peter de Arderne, or that he claimed it, which would be the same thing, as representative of the eldest sister and heiress of the last John lord of Knotton, and that, as shown above, he simply sold it with all his other *mesne* rights to Master John le Burgylon.

[1] See the Final Concord made at York between Wm. de Bromley the younger and Ralph le Burgelon the younger. (Deed No. 5 of the Roll.)

Again, as he acquired lordship as *medius* over Clayton Griffin, so he did also, and at the same time, over the other members of the manor of Knutton, including Whitmore, as we shall presently see, and those rights he acquired and enjoyed for one reason only—because he had become lord of Knutton itself.

Master John le Burgylon cannot be dismissed without a word or two more, since every line of the old records holds in solution a hidden secret which may crystallize at any moment. There is one in the following. At Trinity, 32 Edw. I., 1304, the Sheriff had orders to distrain WILLIAM DE TOFTES, and John Freton (? Ireton) and Agnes his wife to show by what service they held their tenements of Peter de Arderne in Knotton, which services the said Peter had conceded by fine to MAGISTER JOHN.[1]

William de Tofts and John Freton (? Ireton) and Agnes his wife had evaded homage and service to MASTER JOHN LE BURGUILLON up to 1304 for their tenement in Knotton, as just shown.

The two principals as against Master John in this suit are William de Toftes and Agnes Ireton, and it concerns lands of their inheritance. These two therefore were probably brother and sister.

The name de Toftes or del Toftes is identical with de Bosco and atte Wode or del Wode.

Now this William de Toftes was the son of one Christiana, and among the transcripts of old Whitmore deeds at Stafford there is one bearing date 4 Edw. I., 1275, in which a WILLIAM DE TOFT and CHRISTIANA his wife grant a *placea* of land in Whitmore to MAGISTER JOHN LE BURGOYNON.[2]

I think this Christiana must have been a woman of standing in Knutton and Whitmore, because her son William more than once appears in witness clauses (*circa* 1275–1285) in that collection as "William son of Christiana de Bosco," or more often merely as "William son of Christiana." Yet she could scarcely be identified with Christiana de Hydenhall, Lady of Knutton, who was a widow, not yet re-married, if she ever did marry again, in February, 1267, which (at least according to Hat-

[1] Plea Rolls, *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VII, p. 119.

[2] Unfortunately the witness clause is not given.

field's copy of the original charter) was the date of her Charter of Confirmation to John lord of Whitmore. But I think she may have been a daughter of Christiana de Hydenhall,[1] and that the lands in Knutton and Whitmore, which must have been considerable, inherited by William de Toftes and (his sister) Agnes de Ireton, may well have descended from her, especially as William and Agnes must have had some plausible reason for withholding fealty from the new *mesne* lord, namely from Master John le Burguillon. A statement that Robert de Haughton held Haughton, *Offley* and the *Toftes* (in Eccleshall Manor), is full of suggestion, as already hinted.[2]

THE FOURTH GENERATION.

I do not propose to account for cadet members of the Burgylons, some of whose names are given in the roll just examined. But confining ourselves to the main stream we find it now diverted into two channels :—

(1) Roger de Burgylon's representatives (as I believe) at Longton.

(2) Master John's representatives at Knutton.

1. I think it is very likely that RALPH LE BURGYLON OF LONGTON, who occurs so often in this generation, was a son of Roger, because the evidence shows that he was not a brother of John son of John le Burgylon, as we shall see.[3] He married a lady named Joan who was an heiress of Longton and brought him a good estate. The evidence of this fact comes in our *Collections*, from which we learn that by a Fine of the Quindene of Easter, 4 Edw. III., 1330, this Longton land was settled on himself and Joan, his wife, and on their issue male, and, in the event of no such issue, on the right heirs of *Joan*.[4] Of the acts of Ralf le Burgylon (I), who was a man of some note in his time in his corner of Staffordshire and of all that he held and did, the reader will find evidence of them in the present Roll and in the *Wm. Salt Collections*. That he was not a son of Master John

[1] I do not trace the name Hydenhall. [2] Reference mislaid.

[3] It is to be remembered, however, that a Ralph le Burgelon witnessed a Fenton deed in 1274. *Staff. Hist. Coll.* for 1911, p. 440.

[4] *Staff. Hist Coll.*, Vol. XI, p. 130.

seems evident from the manner in which he comes into the test-clause of a Hanchurch Deed formerly at Trentham dated 1329 thus *Ralph Burgoynon and John son of John Burgoynon.* After them comes in order Nicholas de Knotton.

JOHN SON OF JOHN LE BURGYLON OF KNOTTON. This son of Master John found himself involved in a series of lawsuits over Knutton, being sued repeatedly by the representatives of the Ardernes and the Knuttons, but not by the Bromleys. Thus in 1315 Margaret, John de Arderne's widow, sues him for her dower, namely for one-third of the Manor of Knutton, excepting two messuages, 19½ ac. of land, one-third of a water mill, and one-third of an iron mine. John le Burgylon argues apparently that his father, not her husband, was seized of the manor at the time of her marriage.[1]

This, and other suits, were protracted for years, and it was not till 1325 that "John s. of John Burgyloun" established his legal claim to the Manor of Knutton against Peter s. of Peter de Arderne, the case being then dismissed on default of Peter. Doubtless a compromise had been effected—

In 1320 another dower-suit came forward, namely that of Agnes, widow of Robert de Knotton. She had in fact two suits for dower in the court at the same time—

1. In the first she sues :—

Hugh Dawson for ⅓ of 10 ac. of land and of 4 ac. of meadow in Knotton :
William Baly for ⅓ of 3 ac. of land.
(*Sir*) *James de Audley* for ⅓ of 2 ac. and 2*s.* rent.
(*? Sir*) *William de Mere* for ⅓ of 10*s.* rent.
John le Burgoynon and John s. of John de Swynnerton for ⅓ of an iron mine. All in Knotton.

2. In her other dower-suit she sues :—

Thomas Baban and *Margaret* his wife for ⅓ of a messuage and 2 ac. of meadow in Knotton.
Richard Lagow for ⅓ of 6 ac. of land.
William s. of Wm. de Thiknes for ⅓ of 22*d.* rent.

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. IX, p. 55.

John s. of John de Swynnerton for ⅓ of 2 parts of a water mill, all in Knotton.[1]

I have seen no evidence as to when John son of John le Burgylon died.

ROGER LE BURGYLON OF KNUTTON. That Master John le Burgylon had a younger son Roger is at least suggested in a suit of Roger s. and h. of Roger lord of Swynnerton. At the time of the second rebellion of Thomas Earl of Lancaster the King's uncle, the men of Knutton had sided with Lancaster. They were present at Boroughbridge in 1322, and in the subsequent faction fights which devastated North Staffordshire they were of that party, the Swynnertons of Isewall in Eccleshall siding with them, while the Swynnertons of Swynnerton were of the opposite party throughout. These political squabbles dividing families were not allayed for years, and in 1332 one of those feuds found expression in the complaint of Roger de Swynnerton the Younger that *John Burgiloun*, ROGER BURGILOUN, Henry, John Burgiloun's servant, John s. of John de Swynnerton of Isewall, and Thomas Yokkynson of Knotton, had taken *vi et armis*, his goods and chattels at Knotton to the value of £40.[2]

That this Roger Burgilon is identical with the Roger Burguillon who in May, 1327, was with the King and Roger Mortimer and Queen Isabella at York in their advance towards Scotland, and who then received a pardon is shown by the fact that "John son of John de Swynnerton" of the last paragraph received there a general pardon at the same time.[3]

THE FIFTH GENERATION.

In this generation the LONGTON branch of the Burgylons finds expression in RALF SON OF RALPH, as the following Fine shows:—

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. IX, pp. 82, 83. I have written out these two cases thus for purposes of comparison. No doubt those against whom Agnes claimed were free tenants under John le Burgylon, who seems to have had a tenant's claim also to a share in the iron mine. The iron mine and the mill, duly worked, would, I am convinced, still yield much. The original rolls should be carefully examined again.

[2] *Ibid.*, Vol. XIV, p. 28.

[3] *Pat. Rolls*, 1 Edw. III., p. 49, R.O.

On the 3rd February, 1342, there was a Final Concord between Ralph Burgilon, the Younger, and Alianora his wife, complainants, and Ralph Burgilon, the Elder, and Joan his wife Deforciants, concerning 4 messuages, one carucate, and oxgangs of land, 15 ac. of meadow, 40 ac. of pasture, and 4*s.* rent, in Longeton, near Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Ralph Burgilon the Elder and Joan his wife granted the tenements to Ralph Burgilon the Younger and Alianora and their issue, and failing such to the right heirs of Ralph Burgilon the Younger, and for this grant Ralph the Younger and Alianora his wife paid Ralph the Elder and Joan his wife 100 marks.[1]

JOHN LE BURGILON OF LONGTON, as well as Ralph the heir there, must have been a son JOHN, and he will have been that John who became feoffee to John son of Master John le Burgilon of Knutton, to which branch we now turn :—

ROGER LE BURGELON OF KNUTTON. At Swynnerton there is a very important deed, which is really a re-conveyance, which throws much light on one of the obscure points in the history of the descent of the manor of Knutton and its various members. It is dated April, 23 Edw. III., 1349. It sets forth that Henry Ireton and John son of Ralph Burgylon *of Longton* (possibly two ecclesiastics), the feoffees of John le Burgylon *of Knotton*, make a grant-in-tail to the said John Burgylon of Knotton and Joan his wife, and to ROGER, SON AND HEIR of his body, of lands in Knotton, Honford, Clayton Griffin, Whitmore, and Hatton (? Hanchurch).[2]

Here with Knutton we have all its members excepting Dimsdale which had practically merged into Knutton, as set forth in the Great Inquest of 1212. Of these, Knutton and Dimsdale were in Wolstanton parish, and Hanford, Clayton Griffin, and Hanchurch in the parish of Trentham. Whitmore ecclesiastically was appurtenant to Stoke-on-Trent.

This most important deed helps us with other records, for this Roger must be identical with the Roger Borgoillon who with John de Delves (both of them squires) served in the retinue of the Earl of Arundel at the battle of Crecy, and who, before Calais, on the Earl's testimony, received from the King a

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. XI, p. 152.

[2] I am quoting from an abstract copy which I made many years ago.

conditional pardon "for their good service in France" for all felonies committed by them before that date. Like all evil doers of that age they were serving in the army at their own expense with a view to beginning again "with a clean slate." And this Roger of the deed must be identical also with Roger Burgoillon who in 41 Edw. III., 1367, and again in 1369, granted or sold to John de Delves Kt. the 24*s.* in Whitmore due from of old from the lords of Whitmore to their *mesne* lords of Knutton, together with the homage and service of John de Whitmore and his heirs, for the tenements which the said John de Whitmore held of Roger Burgylon aforesaid.

And this is a good example of the way in which families came to the front in those days as in these. For just as when the Bromleys of Whitmore declined the Burgylons mounted, so now, as the Burgylons decline, the Delveses step into their place.

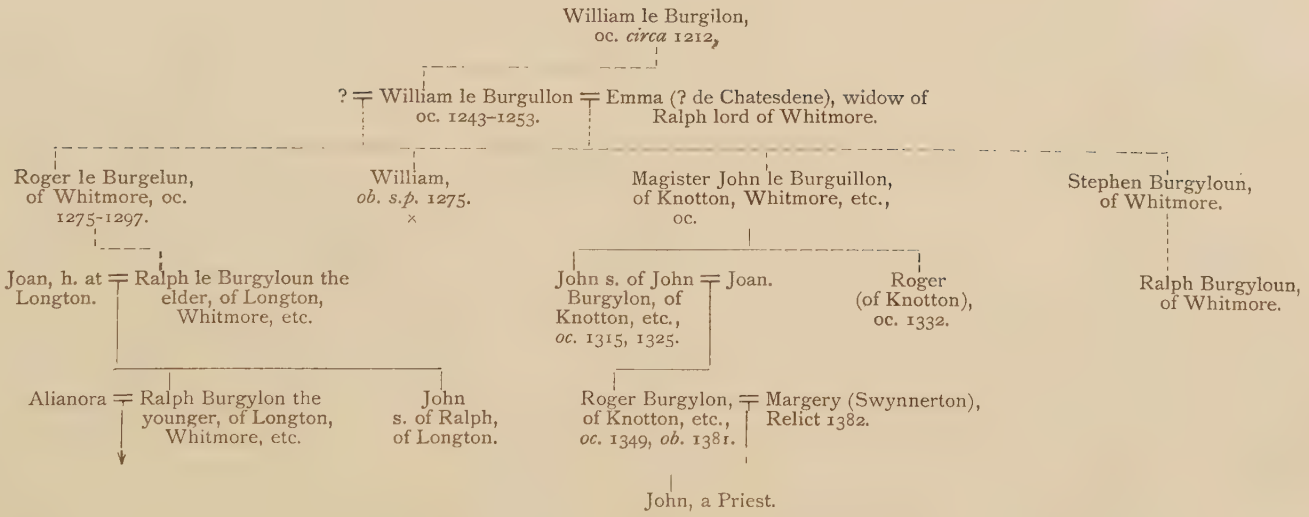
This brief record of the Burgylons in North Staffordshire may close with an account of a scene which is stamped with the character of the times in which they lived. On St. Barnabas' Day, June 11th, 1380, came together in the fratry of Trentham Priory, Nicholas de Muccleston the Prior, and the whole Convent, to receive Roger Burgoillon, who was accompanied by his friends or relations, William de Thikenes the Mayor of the borough of Newcastle, Henry Delves of Whitmore and John his son, John lord of Whitmore, Thomas Symon and John Colclogh the two bailiffs of the borough for the year, Thomas de Podmore, and John Bourton (? Blurton). Before them lies an indenture consisting of three clauses: (1) an attestation on the part of the Prior and Convent that they hold their manor of Clayton Griffin of Roger le Burgoillon; (2) a recitation of a former confirmation of that manor to the Convent by John Burgoillon, Clerk; and (3) a fresh confirmation by Roger le Burgoillon, in which he re-affirms his grandfather's grant, save only fealty, together with one penny of the ancient rent of service, 13*s.* 4*d.* The indenture receives the solemn assent of Roger Burgylon, his witnesses attest it, and with his seal it is fortified. This was probably Roger's last public act before setting out for the wars, probably with a view to another pardon. For just seventeen days later, on June 28th, he again with John de Delves (and many others) set sail for Calais, being two squires in the retinue of

Hugh de Calveleye, one of the leaders in the expedition of the Earl of Buckingham, the King's uncle, against the French in that year. The campaign was by no means a notable one, and the force returned by way of Falmouth from Brittany in March, 1381. It is probable that Roger Burgoillon never lived to return —that he died abroad. At any rate, about the Feast of the Purification, February 2nd, 1382, we have Margaret, the widow of Roger le Burgoillon, then deceased, granting by deed to Prior Nicholas and the Canons of Trentham all her dower-rights, both in the annual service of 13*s.* 4*d.* and in the whole of the manor of Clayton Griffin, her son John, a priest, assenting. The principal witness to this deed was a Roger de Swynerton who was probably her brother, but there were present also John lord of Whytmore, William de Theckenes, Thomas de Theckenes, and Ralph del Hogh, and the deed was sealed, signed and delivered at Trentham.[1] Of these witnesses William de Thickness's life-story as given in Vol. VIII, N.S., of these collections is also quite redolent of the spirit of the times, and to that strange history the reader is referred. Suffice it to say here that he was connected with Margery Burgoillon, for having married when twelve years old a girl of eight, he bigamously married at twenty, in or about the year 1329, Katherine Swynnerton, who bore him nine children. Both these ladies having died, he then married Margery de Audley, who brought him legitimately that son, Thomas de Thickness, who figures with his father in Margery Burgylon's pathetic surrender (if it was not merely a surrender *pro formâ*) of all her dower rights in Clayton Griffin (but not elsewhere) to the monks of Trentham in 1382. William de Thickness, a Member of Parliament in 1378, was dead in 1388, when Thomas de Thickness was reigning in his stead.

How the Burgylons of Knotton fared after the death of Roger does not appear. Their rights seem to have passed to the Delveses. But in the manor of Whitmore the name of Burgylon survived through many subsequent generations, as we know both from the Plea Rolls and from the Manor Court Rolls of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

[1] *Trentham Cartulary*, Vol. XI.

A TENTATIVE PEDIGREE.



V. THE STYCHES OF BUTTERTON, CO. STAFFORD, AND OF STYCHE AND LONGSLOW, CO. SALOP.

The Styches, as lords of Butterton, figure so largely in the Bromley Roll, that some further notice of them in this place seems to be desirable.

The first of them to appear in Staffordshire records is THOMAS DE STUCHE, who is specially mentioned as Lord of Butterton in the composition already referred to, which settled the long-standing contention between Newcastle and Swynnerton as to the waste of Schertelyme. The date of this composition which consists of four charters copied in full in the Great Coucher Book of the Duchy of Lancaster is 8 Edw. I. (Feast of the Annunciation, 1280).

In 21 Edw. I., 1292, 'Thomas de Stuche lord of Botyrdon' is *in misericordia* for default.[1]

This was the de Stuche who probably married an heiress of Butterton and who was succeeded by a son—

WILLIAM DE STUCHE. Concerning this William we have a curious story told in a Plea Roll of 17 Edw. II., 1322, which tells how after the Battle at Burton Bridge a certain groom was leading along a destrier loaded with armour and jewels to the value of £100, which had belonged to Roger Damory the King's enemy (who had married the King's niece, a co-heiress of the last Gilbert de Clare), how this groom was fleeing towards Roucester, how the prize should have been forfeited to the King, how the destrier with its load of precious things was seized and carried off by William Stouche of co. Salop, and how the groom through fear fled away for his life, for which action on his part William de Stuche stood charged.[2]

[1] *Staff. Hist. Coll.*, Vol. VI, Part 1, p. 276.
[2] *Ibid.*, Vol. IX, p. 35.

William de Stuyche's wife as we learn from a fine levied in 13 Edw. II., 1319, was Roesia de Standon, a daughter of Vivian, lord of Standon, of a house highly distinguished both by descent and by deeds of arms in the county of Stafford.

By Rose his wife he must have had two sons, namely—

THOMAS DE STUCHE his successor and heir, and Vivian so named after his maternal grandfather. It is this Thomas who in the Bromley Roll is sometimes named "Thomas de Stuche, Lord of Butterton," and again "Thomas son of William de Stuche, Lord of Stuche in co. Salop." He married Isabel, the daughter and co-heir of Hugh de Wlonkeslowe (Longslow), lying north-west of Market Drayton in co. Salop. They were already married in December, 1313, when Isabel was aged only fourteen. In right of his wife he held a moiety of Longslow *in capite* of the King, by the service of finding an armed soldier at his own cost at the Castle of Montgomery in time of war with the Welsh for fourteen days. He died on the 18th August, 1349, the year of the Black Death, leaving a son and heir[1]—

WILLIAM DE STUCHE who was of the age of twenty-four years and more when his father died. This William married one Alice or Alina, in whose favour by licence of the King he levied a fine with Ric. de Horton, Chaplain, and Vivian de Stuche settling his moiety of Longslow on her for the term of her life with remainder to the heirs of their bodies, which Alice died in 3 Ric. II., 1379. William himself had pre-deceased her, dying on the 23rd June, 1369. He left a son and heir[2]—

THOMAS DE STUCHE, aged eighteen at the date of his father's death, as well as two daughters Beatrice and Elizabeth.

The Inquisition post mortem of Thomas de Stuche is dated the Thursday next after the Purification (2nd February), 6 Hen. IV., 1405. After reciting his possessions at Longslow and Styche it continues thus:—"And the said Thomas held in his demesne as of fee on the day of his death a messuage and five acres of land with appurtenances at Burghton in the co. aforesaid (Salop) of the Dean of the Church of St. Cedde, Salop, by what service unknown, worth by the year 3*s.* 5*d.*, "but really then worth nothing by the year on account of war and the destruction wrought by the Welsh rebels of the Lord the King."

[1] *Inquis. p. m.* at the R.O. [2] *Ibid.*

This passage at first sight might seem to be a series of errors. But though "Burghton" looks like a mistake for "Butterton," there can be no doubt that it represents "Burtone" in Salop, which we know from Domesday as one of the possessions of the Canons of St. Cedde.

Thomas de Stuyche died on the Saturday next after the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, 1405, his nearest heir and his successor being his son—

WILLIAM DE STUYCHE, whose Inquisition is missing, but the date of it is entered as 6 Hen. V., 1418. He left an only daughter and heiress—[1]

ELENA DE STUCHE, a young girl, who unhappily died *infra etatem*, while in the King's custody as holding *in capite*. Eyton says that she married John de Sandford of Salop in 1418, but there is no hint of any such marriage in her Inquisition, and she certainly left no issue when she died on the 6th November, 1420, still under age and still in ward to the King.[2] With her the right line of the Styches of Styche and of Butterton came to an end, her nearest heirs being two grand-aunts, sisters of her grandfather Thomas, Beatrice de Manston and Elizabeth wife of Hoel ap Gwyllym, aged respectively, in 1420, fifty and forty-seven.

Styche with whatever rights remained still to the family at Butterton (if any) must have previously passed to a Styche. Blakeway mentions a John Styche of Styche as occurring in 18 Hen. VI., 1439, whose sole daughter and heiress Katherine he says married John Clive, from whom descends the noble house of Clive.[3]

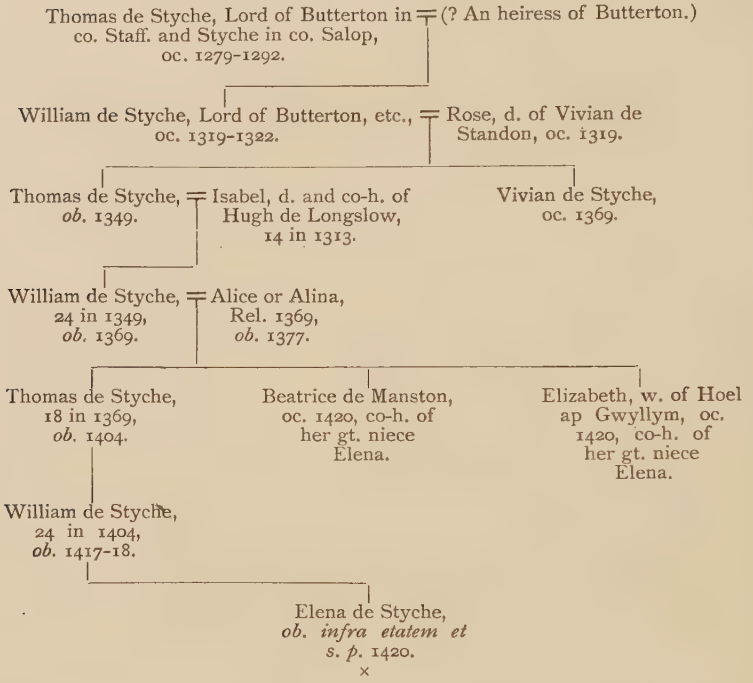
I do not know who this John de Styche was, but an entry occurs in a Plea Roll of 13 Hen. IV., 1389, in which a *John son of William Stuche*, of Wode Eyton, is indicted for having seized two oxen at Chekeley. Possibly the last J. Styche of Styche may have been of this branch of the family. Blakeway calls him a great-grandson of the Thomas de Styche of Styche and Butterton who married Isabel co-heiress of Longslow in the reign of Edward II.

[1] *Inquis. p. m.* at the R.O.

[2] *Infra etatem* at that time would signify that the lady was not yet fourteen.

[3] Blakeway's *Sheriffs of Shropshire*, pp. 140, 142.

PEDIGREE.



Note 1.—From the Inquisition p. m. of Beatrice Manston we get a good idea of what the home of one of the smaller gentry of the period was like. She possessed only the fourth part of Longslow. She had there a hall or court with two rooms at the upper end, a dove-cote, and a barn. These probably stood in a close surrounded by a moat. On the land there were two homesteads with fields, meadows, and some wood.

Note 2.—It should be noted that the term *mesne* lord is relative, depending on the point of view. The Burgylons were *mesne* lords of Knutton, and the Whitmores *arrière* lords of Whitmore with regard to the suzerain lord, the Earl of Lancaster. Or the Whitmores might be termed *mesne* lords with regard only to their immediate overlords of Knutton.

CHARLES SWYNNERTON.

STAFFORDSHIRE COATS OF ARMS, 1272–1327, FROM THE ROLLS OF ARMS IN MS. IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

BY THE HON. SECRETARY.

STAFFORDSHIRE COATS OF ARMS, 1272-1327. FROM THE ROLLS OF ARMS IN MS. IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

By the Hon. Secretary.

There are in the British Museum a large number of old rolls of arms of the period proposed to be covered by this article. It is impossible to give exact dates to these rolls where they are undated, or even to be certain that all those arms in the dated rolls are really of that date and have not been interpolated later. The copies we have in the Harleian, Cottonian, and Lansdowne MSS. are copies of copies, and each copy has had additional matter embodied in it. One cannot even be certain how many original rolls were copied from. Two of the rolls towards the close of the period can, however, be dated approximately, and as both these refer specifically to each county, Staffordshire among the others, I have set them out in fuller detail than the others. The earlier rolls refer to the whole kingdom, and are less voluminous; they deal mainly with the magnates of the whole country. The knights whose names do occur were on the verge of baronies if not actual barons by tenure. From these earlier lists I have, therefore, only taken out the isolated names and arms of undoubted Staffordshire knights as they casually occur.

The later lists which I shall refer to as of 1308 and of 1323 are, in the earliest MS., merely described in old French blason. Later copyists of the seventeenth century, Randle Holme and others have, of course, copied them in trick drawings; but the actual coats can best be known from the early French description and the contemporary seals of the personages. For many of the earlier rolls we have now only the "trick" copyings of the Elizabethan heralds to work from, and must construct our blason from the "trick." There is one exception; the roll given in

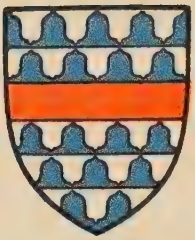
Cottonian MS. Tiberius E. VIII., entitled "The arms of certain illustrious men of England in the time of Henry III.," though preserved in company with much that was written in the time of Henry VIII., appears to have been copied at an earlier date, and in that MS. the arms are set out in an old style trick, and in some cases colour has been contemporaneously applied. The original of this roll is, however, of very doubtful date, as the surnames only of the personages are given; and though the roll begins with King Henry III., some men of obviously fourteenth century date are present. This roll shows the arms of Penebrugg, Wastneys, Harecourt, Hondesacre, Gresley, and Barantyne, the last two being coloured. The value of this roll is by reason of the early drawing of the coats, and in the following monograph it has only been used to guide the draftsman in preparing the escutcheons of definite personages bearing the same surname, where no earlier drawing or seal is available.

In most of the lists prior to that of 1308 I have omitted all mention of the names and coats of such well-known earls or barons as Stafford, Ferrers, Audley, Verdon, Basset of Drayton, Burnel, Despencer, Arundel, although they were all more or less Staffordshire personages. The names of Staffordshire knights have been taken out from each roll, but where the same man occurs again and again in different rolls of about the same time his name and arms have only been taken out in that which appeared to be the earlier of the rolls in question.

1. A Roll of about 1272, see Addl. MS. 4965, and Harl. MS. 6137 (in the first MS. the arms are described shortly in blason; in the second they are illustrated in trick).

Pers de Monfort, bendy, or & blue.
Philip Marmion, vair of argent & blue, a fesse gules[1] (of Tamworth, *d.* 1291).
Willm. Harecurt, or, 2 bars gules (of Ellenhall, *d.* 1278).
Tebaud de Verdon, or, fretty gules (of Alton, sucd. 1274).[2]
James de Audeley, gules, fretty or (of Heley, *d.* 1273).
Robart de Grendon, argent, 2 chevrons gules (of Shenstone, *d.* 1272–3).
Roger de Somery, or, 2 lions passant blue (of Dudley).
Humfray Hastang, blue, a chief gules, over all a lion rampant argent.

[1] Elsewhere described as gules fretty or on the fesse.
[2] Occurs in Addl. MS. 4965 only.



LORD PHILIP MARMION OF TAMWORTH

LORD PIERS DE MONTFORT OF BEAUDESERT

SIR WILLIAM DE HARCOURT OF ELLENHALL

LORD THEOBALD DE VERDON OF ALTON

LORD JAMES DE AUDLEY OF HELEY

SIR ROBERT DE GRENDON OF SHENSTONE

LORD ROGER DE SOMERY OF DUDLEY

SIR HUMPHREY HASTANG

SIR ROBERT DE LA WARD OF KINGSLEY

SIR WILLIAM BAGOD OF THE HYDE

SIR WALTER DE HOPTON OF TIRLEY

SIR ADAM DE BRINTON OF WOOD EATON

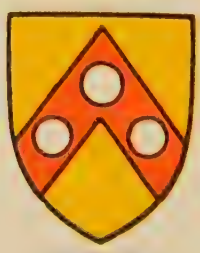
SIR HENRY DE ERDINGTON

SIR GEOF. DE GRESLEY OF DRAKELOW

SIR JOHN DE HERONVILLE OF WEDNESBURY

SIR WILLIAM DE WASTNEYS OF COLTON

SIR WILLIAM DE HANDSACRE OF HANDSACRE



SIR ROBERT DE STAFFORD OF ANSLOW

SIR WILLIAM DE MERE OF MAER

SIR GEOF. DE CAMVILE OF CLIFTON

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Robart de la Ward, vair of argent & sable (of Kingsley).

Willm. Bagod, argent, 2 chevrons blue (of the Hyde, *d.* 1293).

Roger Sprenghose, gules, 2 lions passant argent, a blue label (sheriff, *d.* 1304).

Walter de Hopton, gules, crusselly or & a lion rampant or (of Wemme, *j.u.*, *d.* 1305).

Bewes de Cnovile, gules, 6[1] mullets or, a blue label (sheriff, *d.* 1307).

Adam de Brinton, gules, a lion rampant ermine[2] (of Wood Eaton, *d.* 1275).

Henry de Herdington, blue 2 lions passant or (of Erdington).

Geaffrey de Gresely, vair of ermine and gules (of Drakelow, *d.* 1305).

John de Heronvile, sable (? blue), 2 lions passant argent crowned or (of Wednesbury, *d.* 1314, aged 75).

Willm. de Wasteneis, sable, a lion rampant argent collared gules (of Colton, *d.* 1277–81).

Willm. de Hondesacre, ermine, 3 chess rooks gules (of Handsacre).

Robert de Stafford, or, a chevron gules charged with 3 roundels argent, a blue label (of Anslow, *j.u.*).

Willm de Mere,[3] gules, a lion rampant argent (of Maer & Norton, *d.* 1324).

Geffray de Camvile, blue, 3 lions passant argent (of Clifton C., *d.* 1308).

Robert de Staundon,[3] quarterly, argent[4] & gules fretty or, a bendlet blue (of Standon, *d.* 1307–16).

Rafe le Botiler,[3] argent, 2 bends blue.

A Roll of *c.* 1276–82 contains the following variants of arms given above (Harl. 6137 f. 66 *et seq.*) :—

Mr. Philip Marmyon, sable, a sword in pale, argent.

Mr. Boges de Knovile, gules, 3 mullets *argent*, a blue label.

A Roll of *c.* 1288–94, Harl. 6137 f. 61 *et seq.*, adds the following names and arms :—

Edmun Wasteney, sable, a lion argent collared gules.

Roberd de Halweton, argent, on a bend gules 3 eagles or (of Haughton, *d.* 1303–4).

Johan de Harecourt, or, 2 bars gules (of Elenhall, *d.* 1330).

Johan de Westune, argent, a bend sable & a border gules bezanty or (? of Weston-u-L.).[5]

[1] Should be three not six, see his seal.

[2] Described in Addl. MS. as "with forked tail."

[3] These do not occur in Harl. 6137. The Standon coat should be compared with those of Dutton of Maer and with that of Despencer.

[4] Given in Harl. 6589 as ermine not argent, and without the bendlet.

[5] The arms of John Weston of Weston-under-Lizeard are said by Harwood to have been—"or, an eagle displayed regardant."

Hue d'Audley, gules, fretty or, a blue label (of Stratton-A., *d.* 1324).
Walkelyn de Arderne, or, a lion rampant vert.
Roberd Hasting, blue, a chief gules, over all a lion or (of Chebsey, *d.* 1306–11).
Will. de Caunvile, blue, 3 lions passant argent (of Clifton-C.).

Of about the same date, but said by the copyist to be of 43 H. III., is the roll in Harl. 6589 f. 34 *passim*. This gives the following:—

Adam de Kocfeld, gules, 6 fleurs de lis argent.
Willm. Wither, argent, 3 cressants gules.
Simon Bassett, wavy, argent & sable (of Sapecot, *d.* 1295).
Robt. de Standone, quarterly, ermine & gules, fretty or[1] (*cf.*, *supra* p. 281).
Roger Corbett, or, 3 corbies sable (of Hadley & Bromley).
Thomas Corbett, or, 6 corbies sable, a canton gules with 2 lions passant argent.
Robt. Pourcell, ermine, 3 roundels gules.
Will. de Camville, blue, 3 lions passant argent, a label gules (*see supra* p. 281).
Tho. de Camville, the same without the label.

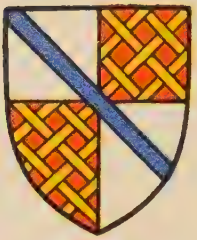
"The names & the armes of the lordes & knights wh. were with K.E.I. at the siege of Carlaverock in the yeare of grace 1300," generally known as the Caerlaverock Roll of Arms, gives us another list from which we may take the following. I have here taken all the Staffordshire names, lords as well as knights, so that a record of those present at the siege might be printed complete. The MS. is Harl. 6589:—

Sr. Piers de Gresley, verry, ermine & gules.
Sr. . . . de la Poole, or, a lion rampant gules.
Sr. Robt. de la Warde, verrey, argent and sable.
Sr. Thos. de Rous, ermine, on a chief endented gules 2 scallops argent.
Sr. John de Ferrers, verrey, or & gules.
Sr. Hugh Despencer, quarterly, argent and gules fretty or, a bendlet sable.
Sr. Tebaud de Verdon, or, fretty gules.
Sr. John Somery, or, 2 lions passant blue.
Sr. John Botetort, or, a saltier engreled sable.

There is another Roll of about this date, 1296–1303, which gives the arms of a few other men, not at Caerlaverock (Harl. 6137 f. 57):—

[1] These are the arms of Dutton of Dutton, co. Cestr.

TEMP. EDWARD I.



SIR ROBERT DE STANDON OF STANDON

SIR ROBERT DE HALGHTON OF HAUGHTON

SIR ROB. HASTANG OF CHEBSEY

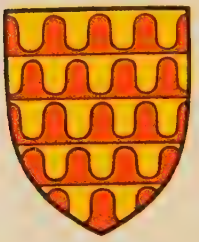
SIR SIMON BASSET OF SAPCOTE

SIR ROGER CORBET OF KINGS BROMLEY

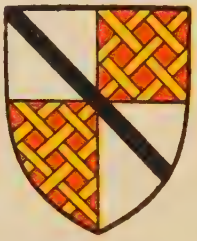
SIR THOMAS CORBET

SIR ROBERT PURCEL

SIR WILLIAM DE LA POLE OF BERE SARDON

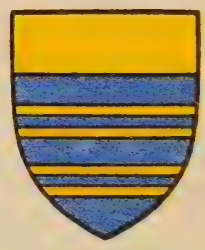


LORD JOHN DE FERRERS OF CHARTLEY

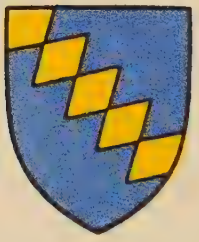


LORD HUGH LE DESPENCER THE ELDER

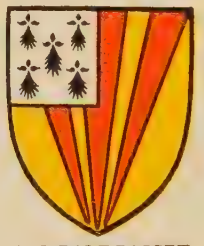
LORD JOHN BOTTE-TOURT



SIR NICHOLAS DE MEYNILL OF HINTES



SIR WILLIAM DE BIRMINGHAM



LORD RALF BASSET OF DRAYTON

SIR PH. BARING-TON OF CREIGHTON

SIR ROBERT DE HOLAND OF YOXALL

SIR HUGH MEYNILL OF KINGSLEY AND HINTES

SIR ROGER DE SWYNNERTON OF SWYNNERTON

SIR WILLIAM BAGOT OF THE HYDE

SIR RICHARD BASSET OF WELDON

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sire Nichole de Menill, blue, 2 pair of gemel bars & a chief or (of Langley Meynell).
sire Roberd de Hastange, blue, a chief gules, over all a lion rampant or.
sire Wm. de Burmichame, blue, a bend lozengy[1] or.

The next Roll is that of those present at the Dunstable Tournament in 1308–9. The Harl. 6589 f. 41 is supposed to give this list from which the following are taken[2] :—

Sr. Theobald de Verdon, or, fretty gules.
Sr. John de Ferrers, verre, or & gules.
Sr. John de Harecourt, gules, 2 bars or (*sic*).
Sr. John Weston, argent a *fesse* sable, a border gules bezanty or.
Sr. Hugh le Despencer, quarterly, argent and gules fretty or, a baston & a label sable.
Sr. John de Somery, or, 3 lions passant blue.
Sr. Raufe Bassett, or, 3 piles in point gules, a canton ermine.
Sr. Philip Barrington, argent, a lion rampant sable with tail forked, on the shoulder a fleur de lis or.
Sr. Robert de Stepleton, blue, a lion rampant or with tail forked.
Sr. Robert de Holand, blue, fleurette and a leopard rampant argent.
Sr. John de Arderne, gules crusselly or, & a chief or.
Sr. Hugh Meynill, verre, argent & sable, a label gules.[3]
Sr. Roger de Swinerton, argent, a cross patonce sable.
Sr. William de Wasteneys, sable, a lion rampant argent collared gules.
Sr. Richard Bassett,[4] paly of six, gules & or, a border blue bezanty or.
Sr. William Bagott, ermine, on a bend gules 3 eaglets or.
Sr. Hamound le Strange, gules, 2 lions passant argent, a baston or.
Sr. Nichol Hastanges, blue, a chief gules, over all a lion rampant or, a basten argent.
Sr. John Hastings, blue, a chief gules, over all a lion rampant argent.
Sr. Rafe de Stanlade,[5] argent, a lion rampant sable with tail forked.
Sr. Thomas le Roux, ermine, on a chief endented gules 3 scallops argent.

All the above names have been extracted from long omnibus lists of names from all over the country. With the next list,

[1] This may be a bend engrailed, or a bend fusily.

[2] In this Roll the arms are described in very shortened blason in French and English mixed; a few are tricked where the blason is complicated.

[3] He *m.* the heiress of Rob. de la Ward of Kingsley, see *supra*, p. 282.

[4] Of Weldon, *d.* 1314.

[5] It will be observed that this name is written "Stanlawe" in the subsequent list. I cannot say which is right. Neither Stanlade nor Stanlawe is a Staffordshire man.

published by Palgrave in his *Parliamentary Writs* (I, 410), in 1827, and by Sir Harris Nicholas in 1828, and called by them the "Parliamentary Roll," we get a roll broken up into counties. The coats from the Staffordshire part of this roll have already been depicted in Vol. III, Plate 1, of these *Transactions*; but many other Staffordshire coats appear, some in other counties, some in the preliminary list dealing with the kingdom as a whole. I should add that many of those appearing under Staffordshire,—Stanlawe, Stepelton, Appleby, Farnham, Edmund Wastneys,—belong really to other counties.

For the "Parliamentary Roll" there are two authoritative and almost contemporary MS. One, which I have called A, appears in Lansdowne MS. 855, and is a facsimile copy of an early fourteenth-century roll. The second, which I have called B, appears in Cottonian MS. *Caligula* A. XVIII, is also of the early fourteenth century and bears signs in its arrangement of having been copied from the same original as A. Both have a few additions in a later hand. The arrangement of the counties is different in each, but the order of the names in each county is the same throughout. The description of the arms is in old French, and very simple, devoid of all the later flummery of Elizabethan Heraldry.

The extracts here given are from A, and notes indicate any divergence from B. The whole has been checked by comparison with Nicholas, and the coats of arms have been drawn up and coloured from the blasons :—

Ces sunt les noms et les arm a banerez de engletere.

le roy de engletere porte de goules a ijj lupars passanns de or.

le counte de gloucestre, de or a iij cheverons de goules.

le counte de cornewaille, de vert a vj egles de or.

le counte de nichole (Lasey, earl of Lincoln), de or a un lion rampaund de pourpre.

le counte de lancastre, les armes de engletere od le label de fraunce.

le counte de garene (Warrenne), cheker de or e de azure.

le counte de hereforde, de azure a vj lioncels de or a une bande de argent a ij coties de or.

le counte de warwik (Beauchamp), de goules crusule de or a une fesse de or.

le counte de penbroc, burele de argent e de azur od les mereles de goules.
le counte de arundel (Fitzalan), de goules a un lion rampaund de or.
le counte de rugemound (Richmond), les armes de garene a un quarter de or od la bordur de engletere.
le counte de oxenford, quartile de or e de goules a un molet de argent.

Ces sount les nons e les armes a batues de grand seigners.

le counte de cestre, de azur a iij garbes de or.
le counte salesbure, de azur a vj lioncels de or.
le counte de leycestre, de goules a un lion de argent od la coude forchie.
le counte de ferers, verre de or e de goules.
le counte de kent, mascle de ver e de goules.
le counte de devenyschir, de or a un lion de azure.
le counte de winchestre, de goules a vij losenges de or.
le counte de cornewaille, de argent a un lion de goules corone de or, od la bordur de sable besanc de or.
le counte marschal, party de or e de ver a un lion de goules.
le counte de war . . . cet', cheker de or e de azur a un cheveron de ermyn.[1]
le counte de ormund, de or od le chef endente de azure.[1]

Ces sunt les nons de countez e seigners (? bannerets) de engleterre.

Then follow the names of some 240 earls, barons and knights, in no obvious arrangement of either district or precedence, followed by a description of their arms in the same form as above. A begins with Thomas of Brotherton, earl marshal, and Edmund of Wodestock. As Thomas of Brotherton was not made "earl marshall" till 1316, this would seem to put the date of the roll as late as that year, but these names are evidently a subsequent interpolation as they do not occur in B, which begins with the third name—sire john wake.

In this general list the following Staffordshire personages find a place:—

sire john de ferrers,[2] verree de or e de goules.
sire henri de lancastre,[3] les armes de engletere a un baston de azure.

[1] Omitted in B.
[2] Lord Ferrers of Chartley.
[3] Younger brother of Thos. earl of Lancaster; sucd. him in 1322.

sire hue le dispansar,[1] quartile de argent e de goules a une bende de sable, les quarters goules frette dor.
sire hue sun fils,[2] mesme les armes a un label de azure.
sire thebaud de Verdoun,[3] de or frette de goules.
sire john giffard,[4] de goules a iij lions passauns de argent.
sire john de someri,[5] de or a ij lions passans de azure.
sire john boutetor,[6] de or a un sautour engrele de sable.
sire john le estrange, de goules a ij lions passanz de argent.[7]
sire roger le estrange, meymes les armes od la bordur entente de or.
sire ffouk le estrange, de argent a ij lions passanz de goules.
sire peres corbeht, de or a ij corbils de sable.
sire willm de ferreres,[8] de goules a les losenges de or.
sire willm thochet, de goules a les mereles de or.
sire rauf basset,[9] de or iij peus (piles) de goules e en quarter de ermyne.
sire thoms de ffornival, de argent a une bende e vj mereles de goules.
sire nicholas de estlee,[10] de argent a un lion de goules en le espandle del lion un quincfoil de argt.
sire richard de sottone, de or a un lion rampaund de vert.
sire nicholas de audeley,[11] de goules frette de or.
sice john dodingseles, de argent a une fesse de goules en le chef un molet de goules.
sire robert de hoylande,[12] de azure flurette de argent a un lion rampaund de argent.
sire willm de bermyngham, de azure a une bende engrele de or.
sire nicholas de meynel,[13] de azure a ij barres gymiles de or od le chef de or.
sire geffrey de canvyle,[14] de azure a iij lions passaunz de argent.
le baroun de estafforde,[15] de or a un cheveron de goules.

[1] Beheaded with his son 1326.
[2] Born *c.* 1290, knighted 1306, earl of Gloucester.
[3] Lord of Alton, *b.* 1247, sucd. 1274, *d.* 1309. • Or it may be his son, *b.* 1283, *d.* 1316.
[4] This is John Giffard, baron of Brimsfield.
[5] Lord of Dudley, *d.* 1321.
[6] Lord Bottetourte, *d.* 1324. His son Thomas married a co-heiress of Somery of Dudley.
[7] *Vice versa* in the Roll of 1272–3.
[8] Lord Ferrers of Chartley.
[9] Of Drayton.
[10] Of Astley, *d.* 1314, soon after Bannockburn, where he was taken prisoner.
[11] Lord Audley sucd. 1307, under age, *d.* 1316.
[12] Sir Robt. Holand of Yoxall, and of Holand, co. Lancs., slain 1328.
[13] Of Langley Meynill and of Hintes; father of Sir Hugh, see below.
[14] Sir Geo. de Camvile, *d.* 1308, and was sucd. by his son Sir William.
[15] No Christian name is given, probably because lord Edmund was dead (*d.* 1308) and lord Ralph was still a minor.

sire john de harcort,[1] de or a ij barres de goules.
sire bertelmeu de badlesmere,[2] de argent a une fesse e ij barres gimyls de gouls.
sire rauf de grandone,[3] de argent a ij cheverons de goules.
sire peres de gresle,[4] veerres de goules e de ermynes.
le sire de la pole,[5 6] de or a un lion de goules.
sire robert de la warde,[6 7] veerres de argent e de sable.
sire john de sottone,[8] de or od le chef de goules a un lion rampaund de azure.
sire thoms le rous, de ermyne od le chef endente de goules a ij escalops de argent.
sire willm boteler, bende de argent e de goules.[9]

Then follow the names of knights under each county in turn, beginning with Norfolk in A, and with Cornwall in B. I have taken out the names of all those who were, I believe, connected with Staffordshire :—

Under *Canntebrugeschir* occur, all together (but on a separate folio in B), the following, all of whom are Staffordshire men, and most of whom are Needwood men. Chandos indeed, the father or grandfather of the great Sir John, had his chief seat at Radbourne, co. Derby, but he had land also under Needwood ; while "Hulles" may or may not be that "Hill," who, according to Harwood, had Little Pipe by Lichfield, *temp.* Ed. III. (Harwood's *Erdeswick*, pp. 106, 303, 519 ; from his arms he would appear to be a near relation of the Ridwares. How this list came to be misplaced under Cambridge I cannot say :—

sire robert de estafford, de or a un cheveron de goules e iij besanz de or.
sire robert touk,[10] barre de vj peces de argent e de sable.

[1] See note below, p. 288.
[2] Lord Badlesmere.
[3] Lord of Shenstone, *d.* 1331.
[4] Piers Gresley of Drakelow, *d. c.* 1310.
[5] Wm. de la Pole of Bere Sardon, *d.* in 1311.
[6] An addition in a later hand in B.
[7] Lord of Kingsley, *d.* 1316. His daughter and heiress Jane *m.* and carried Kingsley to Sir Hugh de Meynill.
[8] Married a co-heir of Somery of Dudley, and was ancestor of the later lords Dudley.
[9] Omitted altogether in B.
[10] Sir Robt. Toke *m.* Ermyntrude, daughter and heiress of Sir Robert de Stafford, and thus had Anslow ; *b. c.* 1270, he *d.* 1332.

sire robert de haloutone,[1] de argent a une bende de goules e iij egles de or.

sire willm bagehot,[2] de ermyne a une bende de goules e iij egles de or.

sire richard de hulles, de azure a un egle de argent e un baston de goules.

sire john de chaundes, de argent a une peel de goules e un label de azure.

sire huge de meyni(l),[3] verres de argent e de sable e un label de gouls.

sire roger de suylvertone,[4] de argent a une crois de sable les chefs fluretes.

sire thoms de rideware,[5] de azure a un egle de argent.[6]

Under *Derby e Notingham* occur, and rightly so :—

sire willm de mongomeri, de or a un egle de azure.

sire john de langeford,[7] palee de or e de goules a une bende de argent.

sire robt poutrel,[8] de or a une bende de azure e iij flures de argent.

Under *Leycestreschir* occur, rightly, for these men held land there as well as in Staffordshire :—

sire robert de grandone,[9] dargent a ij cheverons de goules e un label de veer.

sire felip de baringtone,[10] dargent a un lion de sable od la coude forchie, en le espandle un fluret de or.

sire john de harecourt,[11] de goules a ij barres de or (*sic*).

sire giles de estle,[12] dargent a un lion de goules en le espandle du lion un quincfoil de argent e un label dazure.

[1] I believe Sir Robt. de Haughton *d.* 1303–4.

[2] Sir Wm. Bagot of the Hyde, sucd. in 1300 and *d.* 1321–5.

[3] Sir Hugh Meynill the elder, of Hintes and Langley Meynell, *d.* 1333.

[4] Sir Roger Swynnerton sucd. *c.* 1300 and *d.* 1338.

[5] Lord of Hamstall Ridware, *d.* 1325–7.

[6] Added in a later hand in B.

[7] John de Longford, of Ellaston, Stanton, and of Longford, co. Derby, *d.* 1304 (*I. p.m.*), but his son Nicholas was only 16 years old, and this may be the reason why it is John's arms that are recorded.

[8] He was the lord of part of Waterfall.

[9] Younger brother of Sir Ralph. He was a great warrior and royal servant, and *d.* 1324.

[10] Lord of Crakemarsh, *d.* 1326.

[11] Knighted 1306, Lord of Elenhall and of Stanton Harcourt. He had also Bosworth in Liecestershire, and *d.* 1330.

[12] Younger brother of Sir Nicholas de Astley, whom he sucd. in 1314. He *d.* 1316.

Under *Norhauntone*:—

sire richard basset,[1] palee de or e de goules, od la bordur de azure bessante de or.
sire john de astone,[2] de sable a un sautour de argent.
sire willm trossel, de argent a une frette de goules besaunte de or.
sire thos trochet, de ermyne a un cheveron de goules.
sire robt son fils, meme les armes a un label de azure.

Under *Warewickshire*:—

sire roger basset,[3] de or a ij penz de sable a un quarter de ermyne.
sire john de grandone, verree de argent e de sable a un baston de or.
sire robert de verdun, de argent a une crois de azure frette de or.
sire perceval de someri, de azure a ij lions passauns de or.
sire henri de erdingtone, meismes les armes od la bordur de goules.
sire simoun de bereford, de argent a iij floures de sable.[4]

Under *Gloucestreschir*:—

sire huge de audele,[5] de goules frette de or a un label de azure.
sire gemes de audele,[6] en le label les lionceuz de or.[7]
sire walter de Optone, de goules crusele de or a un lion rampaund de or.

Under *Wircestreschire*:—

sire john giffard,[8] de argent a les rondels de goules.
sire baudewyne de freville,[9] de or a une crois de goules a les mascles de ver.

[1] Sir Richard Basset of Weldon, co. Northants, and of Madeley Alfac, co. Staffs., was probably killed at Bannockburn in 1314. See p. 292 where *piles* gules have replaced these *pales* of gules.

[2] The contemporary Aston of Heywood, co. Staffs., was named Roger; and their arms were a fesse with 3 lozenges in chief.

[3] Ralph, not Roger, was the contemporary Basset both of Sapecote and of Drayton, and their arms were not these.

[4] Added in a later hand in both A and B. Sir Simon was eld. son of Sir William Bereford, C.J., who died in 1326 (*D.N.B.*), hence the fleurs de lis on the arms.

[5] This is Hugh the elder, *d.* 1325.

[6] Sir James Audley of Stratton, Sir Hugh's eldest son, *b. c.* 1288, knighted 1306, *d.* 1334.

[7] Added at end in a later hand in B.

[8] This is John Giffard of Weston-under-Edge, co. Gloucester, sucd. 1302, *d.* 1320.

[9] Added at end in a later hand in B. He *m.* a co-heiress of Marmion of Tamworth.

Under *Chestreschire :—*

sire john de penbrudge, de argent od le chef de azure e une bende engrele de goules.
sire richard de pulesdone,[1] de sable a iij moles de argent.

Under *Schropschire :—*

sire willm le botyler,[2] de goules crusele de or a une fesse cheker dargent e de sable.
sire rauf le botyler,[3] de goules a une fesse cheker de or e de sable en le chef ij moles de or.
sire willm le botyler de wemme,[4] de azure a une bende e vj coupes dor.
sire huge de kynardesle, de azure crusule dargent a un lion de argen.
sire john de arderne,[5] de goules crusule de or, od le chef de or.
sire john de chedewynde,[6] dazure a un cheveron e iij rouwelus de or.

Under *Estaffordeschire :—*

sire robt de Hastang,[7] de azure od le chef de goules a un lion rampand dor.
sire john de hastang,[7] mesmes, ornes a un label argent.
sire robt de hastang,[7] de azure od le chef de goules e un lion dor od la coude forche.
sire richard de hastang,[7] de azure od le chef de goules a un lion de or e un baston dargent.
sire felip de hastang,[7] dazure od le chef de goules a un lion de argent.
sire robt de stepleton,[8] dazure a un lion de or od la coude forchee.
sire henri de appelbi, de azure, a vj mereles de or.

[1] Lord of Flashbrook ; his descendants were called Jordan, and their heiress *m.* a Barbour, who afterwards bore similar arms.

[2] Probably of Warington, co. Lancs.

[3] Lord of Norbury, co. Staffs., *j.u.* a co-heiress of Philip Marmion and of Hugh de Kilpec. He *d.* 1307–11.

[4] Sucd. 1296, *d.* 1334.

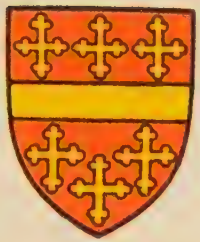
[5] Of Aldford, co. Cestr., and of Elford, co. Staffs.

[6] Added at end in a later hand in B. Sir John Chetwynd was of the elder branch, of Chetwynd, co. Salop.

[7] Robert and John Hastang his son were successively lords of Chebsey and Leamington Hastang, co. Warwick. I believe Sir Robert was dead by 1306, certainly he was so in 1311. Robert was a younger son and had land at Badenhall. Richard and Philip were, I think, sons of Sir John.

[8] Lord of Stepelton, co. Salop, and a parcener with Hastang in Aldridge ; probably a relation of this family of condotieri. He had *m.* soon after 1273 Maud widow of William de Rydeware, and had dower in Mauvesyn Ridware. This Sir Robert seems to have *d. c.* 1296, but a successor Sir Robert held Aldridge and Billington in 1327.

LASCY
Earl of Lincoln



BEAUCHAMP
Earl of Warwick

FITZALAN
Earl of Arundel

SIMON DE MONTFORT
Earl of Leicester

THE BARON OF
STAFFORD

SIR JOHN DE
SUTTON

SIR ROBT TOKE
OF ANSLOW

SIR JOHN DE
CHANDOS

SIR JOHN DE
LONGFORD
OF ELLASTON

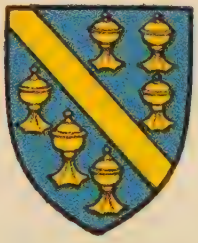
SIR GILES DE
ASTLEY

SIR THOS. TOUCHET
OF MARKEATON

SIR JOHN DE
PEMBRIDGE
OF TONG

SIR RICHARD DE
PULESDON OF
FLASHBROOK

SIR RALPH LE
BOTILER OF
NORBURY



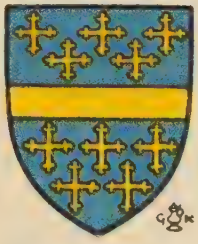
SIR WILLIAM LE
BOTILER OF TYRLEY

SIR JOHN DE
CHETWYND OF
CHETWYND

SIR RICHARD
HASTANG

SIR ROB. DE
STAPLETON

SIR WILL. WYTHER



SIR THOMAS PIPE

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sire willm wasteneys,[1] de sable a un lion dargent e un coler de goules.
sire edmon wasteneys,[1] de sable a un lion dargent od la cowde forchie.
sire rauf de stanlawe, dargent a un lion de sable od la coude forchie e renowe.
sire willm weyer (Wyther),[2] dargent a une fesse e iij cressanz de goules.
sire robt de farnham (?),[3] quartile de argent e de azure a iiij cressanz de lun e lautre.
sire thoms de la pipe,[4] de azure crusule de or a une fesse de or.

Sir Harris Nicholas has put the limits of date of this roll at 1308–14. To judge from the Staffordshire names alone the date should be more exactly 1308. Sir Robert Hastang was certainly dead by 1311; Sir Geoffrey de Camville died in 1308; Sir Piers Gresley died about 1310. While Sir Robert de Halghton died in 1303–4, and Sir John de Longford in 1304. On the other hand, Edmund, Lord Stafford, only died in 1308, and this roll has obviously been drawn up during the minority of his successor Ralph, the first earl.

The number of the Hastang coats and knights is a curious feature of the roll. This family must have been all prominent soldiers of the day. I do not know, however, how we are to explain the absence of the names and coats of those six knights—certainly the most prominent as commissioners, assessors, justices and M.P.'s in the Staffordshire of 1308—Sir William de Stafford of Sandon, Sir William de Mere of Norton-le-Moors, Sir William Trumwyn of Cannock, Sir Robert de Standon of Standon, Sir Robert de Dutton of Maer and Rownall, and Sir Philip de Somerville of Alrewas and Wichnor.

So far as the Staffordshire names are concerned the title of "Parliamentary Roll," given to this Roll of Arms by Palgrave, is quite erroneous. Many of those whose coats are given were men of much too small a standing to represent the county in

[1] Sir William Wasteneys was lord of Colton in Staffs. and of lands in Lincolnshire and Leicestershire. Sir Edmund was the founder of the Nottinghamshire branch of the family.

[2] I have seen a seal of Sir Thomas Wyther of this date bearing these arms. Evidently "Weyer" is a mistake for Wyther. The Wythers held land in or near Ilam and Rocester.

[3] This reading is doubtful and the name unknown in Staffordshire.

[4] Added at end in a later hand in B. Sir Thomas de Pype *m.* Margaret (Basset), the widow of Edmund lord Stafford, who *d.* in 1308.

Parliament. Many were younger sons. It is much more probable that the list was drawn up in connection with one of the Scottish expeditions of Edward II. A great number of new knights were made in 1306 when the Prince of Wales was knighted. The occasion lent lustre to a title which had been till then merely a nuisance and a cause of taxation; and it may well have been that the new knights took an early opportunity to record their arms in good company. The modern Herald's Office supplies a permanent want, and there were men in 1308 as new as the new men of 1908. Boutetort, Sutton, Badlemere, Freville, and Holand were as new in those days as Roberts, Kitchener, Cromer, Cassell to-day; and there were men rising in the counties even as these *proceres* were rising in the camps and councils of the nation. One thing strikes the student of this roll, and that is that there were two very different classes of knights; there were the heads of the knightly families with £20 or more in land; and there was also a sufficiently numerous contingent of fighting knights of no property. These last were not among those likely to be summoned to Westminster to consult about the serious affair of taxation. They were not commissioners, justices of the peace, sheriffs, escheators, or M.P.'s, they were fighting retainers.

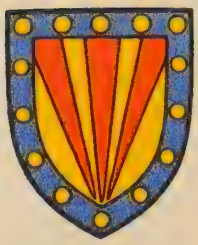
The last Roll comes from the Harleian MSS. 6589, and is the fullest of all. This Roll is entirely broken up into counties, and one can therefore be sure that one is not importing into Staffordshire some knight of a similar name from a far distant county. The blasons of the arms are in short French. The part here given begins:—

Nomina militum in com. staff. 17 *E. II.* (1323–4).

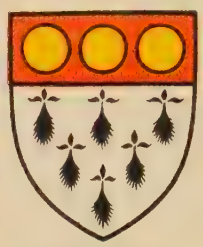
Sr. James Audley, gules, fretty or.
Tho. de Furnivall,[1] argent, a bend between 6 martlets gules.
Tho. de Baringtun[2] (nil).
Walter de Verdon,[3] or, fretty gules.
Rafe Basset de Weldon,[4] or, 3 piles gules, a border blue bezanty or.
Roger de Okeover,[5] ermine, on a chief gules 3 bezants or.

[1] Sucd. as lord of Alton in 1316 *j.u.*
[2] Probably Philip de Barington of Creighton, *d.* 1326.
[3] Of Crakemarsh, *d.* 1356.
[4] Of Madeley Alfac, proved his age 1322 and *d.* 1341.
[5] Of Okeover, *d.* 1337. He and the preceding five were all close neighbours.

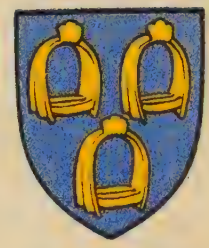
SIR THOMAS DE FURNIVAL OF ALTON



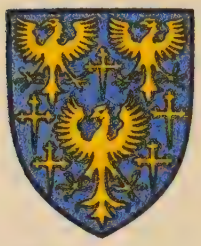
SIR RALPH BASSET OF WELDON



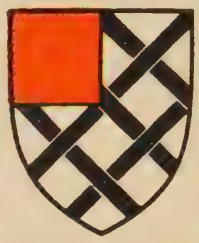
SIR ROGER DE OAKOVER OF OKEOVER



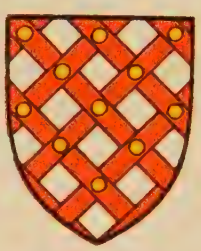
SIR JOHN GIFFARD OF CHILLINGTON



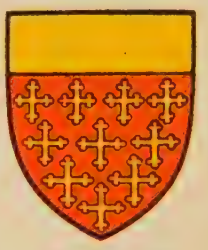
SIR PHILIP DE SOMERVILE OF WICHNOR



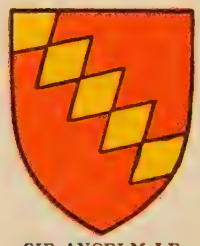
SIR RICHARD DE VERNON OF HARLASTON



SIR WILL. TRUSSELL OF KIBBLESTONE



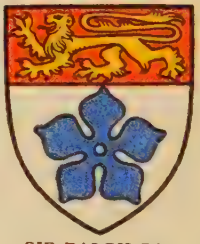
SIR JOHN DE ARDERNE OF ELFORD



SIR ANSELM LE MARSHALL OF COLTON

SIR THOMAS DE RIDWARE OF HAMSTALL RIDWARE

SIR ROBERT DE BEEK OF HOPTON

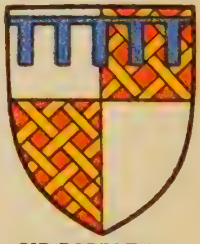


SIR RALPH DE ROLLESTON OF ROLLESTON

SIR THOMAS LE ROUS OF WALSALL

SIR HENRY DE BUSHBURY OF BUSHBURY

SIR JOHN DE SWYNNERTON OF HILTON



SIR ROBERT DE DUTTON OF ROWNALL

SIR WILL. DE STAFFORD OF BRAMSHALL

SIR RICH. DRAYCOT OF DRAYCOT-LE-MOORS

SIR JOHN DE HINKELEY OF STOKE-BY-STONE

SIR WILLIAM TRUMWYNE OF CANNOCK

To face page 293

John Giffard de Chillington, blue, 3 stirropes or.
Rafe de Grendon,[1] argent, 2 chevrons gules.
Philip Somervile,[2] blue sown with crosses & 3 eagles or.
William de Camville, blue, 3 lions passant argent.
Roger de Swynerton,[3] argent, a cross "formy flory" sable.
Richard de Vernon,[4] argent fretty sable, a canton gules.
John de Hamlin (nil).
Will Trussell de Cubleston, argent, fretty gules bezanty or.
John Arderne,[5] gules, a chief or & crussely or.
Anselme le Marshall,[6] gules, a bend fusile or.
Hugo de Meynell,[7] varry, argent & sable.
Tho. de Ridware,[8] blue, a spread eagle argent.
Nicholas de Langford,[8] paly of six, or & gules, a bend argent.
Robert Beke,[9] gules, a cross ermine (shown "formy").
Rafe de Rolleston,[10] argent, a cinquefoil blue, on a chief gules a lion passant or.
Robert de Stapleton,[11] blue, a lion rampant with forked tail or.
Thomas le Rouse,[12] per pale blue & gules, a lion rampant ermine.
Henry de Bishbury,[13] argent, a fesse between 2 cottises sable, on the fessy 3 scallops argent.
John de Swinforton,[14] argent, a cross sable (formy flory), a border engreled gules.
Robert de Dutton,[15] quarterly, argent (? ermine) & gules fretty or, a blue label.
William Stafford,[16] argent, a chevron gules charged with 5 bezants or.
William Wastneis,[6] sable, a lion rampant argent collared gules.
Richard Draycott,[17] or, 3 piles gules, a bend ermine.
John de Hinkeley,[18] gules, a chevron engreled argent.

[1] Of Shenstone, *d.* 1331.
[2] Of Wichnor, *d.* 1355.
[3] Of Swynnerton, *d.* 1338.
[4] Of Harlaston and Haddon.
[5] Of Elford.
[6] Of Colton.
[7] Of Hintes, *d.* 1333.
[8] See *ante*, p. 11.
[9] Of Hopton and Tean, *d.* in 1348.
[10] Of Rolleston, *d.* 1323-4. The blue cinquefoil on silver are the arms of Brailsford of Derbyshire.
[11] See *ante*, p. 14. Lord of Aldridge and a relation of the Hastangs.
[12] Lord of Walsall, knighted 1306, *d.* 1345.
[13] Of Bushbury and Penne, *d.* after 1341.
[14] Of Hilton, *j.u.*, *d.* 1340.
[15] Of Rownall and part of Maer, *d.* after 1334. Harwood calls the Dutton arms ermine and gules quarterly with a label.
[16] Of Bramshall, Amblecot and Sandon, *b. c.* 1262, *d.* 1339–40. These were afterwards adopted as their arms by his descendants the Erdeswicks.
[17] Sir Rich. Draycot of Draycot-in-the-Moors, *d.* 1316, and was sucd. by his grandson John, *b.* 1303.
[18] Of Stoke-by-Stone, *d.* 1344–7.

John de Harcourt,[1] or, 2 barres gules.
Robert de Bures,[2] sable, a bend varry or & gules.

We are able to fix the exact date of this Roll. In Vol. VIII of these *Transactions*, pp. 44–46, will be found a list of those summoned to Westminster "to consult with the king." This list may also be found in *Harl. MS.* 1985. This list of names there given is nearly identical with this roll of "knights." This fact not only tells us the reason for the compilation of the roll now under consideration, it also makes it probable that *all* who were knights were summoned to Westminster. The date of the meeting was to be 9th May, 1324.

The list of summonses is not quite identical with the roll. In our Roll, between the second and third names, ought to be inserted—Thomas de Pipe, Thomas de Halghton, Philip de Barinton—and elsewhere we should add the names of Robert de Grendon and John de Hastanke. We know all these men's arms from previous rolls; that they have been left out is probably the fault of some copyist. The list of those summoned goes on to deal with "men at arms" summoned, who therefore were not then knights. In this second list we find the contemporary Cresswell of Cresswell, Basset of Cheadle, Chetwynd of Ingestre, Ipstones of Ipstones. The only Staffordshire knights who were undoubtedly living at this time, and whose names are missing are Sir Roger Trumwyne, *d.* 1325–33, Sir Robert de Toke, *d.* after 1332, and Sir Ralph le Botiler of Norbury, who was a knight in 1322 and died 1341. The absence of any territorial position in the case of the two first, and inclusion in co. Salop in the case of the last may account for their omission. If so the absence of other names from both roll and list supplies useful information. It shows, for instance, that the lords of Standon, Wrottesley, Bagots Bromley, Perton, Caverswall, Aston of Heywood, Mavesyn Ridware and Hamstall Ridware, were not knights in May, 1324. They were either minors on the threshold of knighthood, or not of knightly rank.

This Roll of 1324 is undoubtedly the most important and complete Staffordshire Armorial that is available during the best

[1] Of Ellenhall, *d.* 1330.
[2] Of Chartley for life, *d.* 1324.

period of heraldry. There is nothing to equal it to be found till sixty years later.

With reference to the arms in these rolls, it is to be regretted that we are not given those of Wrottesley, or of Bagot of Bagots Bromley, just at that period when their arms were changing and when the colours of their coats would have been interesting. The Trumwynes bore arms (sable?), a saltire engreled (or?); they too are omitted. So are the Caverswalls who bore (argent?) fretty (blue?), a fesse (gules?); the Mavesyns who bore (gules?) 2 bendlets (argent?). I do not know of any other Staffordshire family that certainly had a coat at this date who do not figure in these Rolls. The Astons of Heywood may well have started later.

It would seem from the coats that Standon took their arms from the Duttons with whom they intermarried in the thirteenth century. It is possible that the noble house of Despencer took their coat also from the same ancient knightly Cheshire house of Dutton. Meynill evidently took their wavy coat from Robert de la Warde of Hintes and Kingsley; and the prevalence of the Verdon fretty coat and of the Ferrers vair shows the wide influence of these two families in the time of King John when coat armour first spread from earls to humbler personages.

The three coats given for Basset of Weldon have a special interest for modern heralds. The first two are: paly of six; or and gules; the last the ordinary Basset coat: or, 3 piles gules. The coats are probably identical. With a "heater" shield, pointed at the bottom, there is not much difference between 2 blunt-ended pales of red and 3 point-ended piles of the same colour. Etymologically a pile is not a wedge. It will be noted that the coat of Basset of Drayton is spoken of in one place as "3 piles to a point." It goes to show that the heralds of that day judged from appearance, and not at all from any wonderful science of blason. There is all the world of a difference in the description of the blason, so sanctified by the Elizabethan herald; there was none to the scribe who wanted to tell people in 1300 what the knight's shield looked like.

Staffordshire Seals at the British Museum.

The following plates of photographs of early armorial seals in the British Museum serve to show both the gradual development of the armorial seal and shield, and also give a true contemporary picture of the armorial charges on early shields of arms.

The seals exemplified are mostly those of Staffordshire personages, and should be examined in conjunction with the preceding armorial rolls and plates. The descriptions are taken from the British Museum Catalogue of seals. There are in the British Museum some 80 more seals of Staffordshire personages of the period 1170–1500. Those in the Public Record Office are now being catalogued and will shortly be available for study.

Plate I.

1. (lxxx. 87.)—*Hervey de Stretton*, *c.* 1170.—In armour: hauberk and coif, surcoat, conical helmet and nasal, long lance flag, kite-shaped shield on the arm showing the inside. Horse with ornamental saddle.
SIGILLV̄ HERVEI DE STRETTONA.

2. (lxxx. 36.)—*Fulco Paganell.*—Two lions passant, lion between two fleurs de lis. Early example of British heraldry, not on a shield. Plaster cast from an imperfect impression. Late 12th century. *SIGILL . . . . . DE BAMP . . . . E. The arms of Paganel of Bahantune are two lions passant. So are those of Somery, the successors of Paganel at Dudley.

3. (Harl. ch. 56 D. 50.)—*Robert de Stafford*, 1183–90.—To the r. In armour: hauberk, surcoat, conical helmet and nasal, sword, long convex shield with central spike. Horse with ornamental breast band.
SIGILLVM ROBERTI DE . . . . . A.

4. (D.C., D. 162.)—*Reynold del Broc*, *c.* 1180.—To the r. In armour: hauberk, surcoat, conical helmet and nasal, sword, long convex shield. Horse galloping.
"SIGILLV RA . . . . . DEL BROC MARESCALLI REGI."

5. (lii. 35.)—*Robert Marmion*, lord of Tamworth.—Before 1217. In armour: hauberk, long surcoat, helmet, sword, shield. Horse galloping.
. . . . . OBERTI MARMIVM.

6. (lxxv. 74.)—*Nicholas de Verdon*, lord of Alton, *d.* 1231.—To the r. In armour: hauberk, surcoat, flat cap helmet, sword, convex shield ornamented with a fretty device. Horse galloping, caparisoned.
SIGILLVM NICOLAI DE VERDVN.

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7. (Woll. ch. v. 33.)—*William de Gresley*, "of Wetley, co. Staffs," early 13th century.—To the r. In armour: hauberk of mail, round topped helmet, sword, long convex shield. Horse galloping.

SIGILL' WILLELMI DE GRESLEIA.

8. (Cott. ch. xi. 38.)—*Henry de Audley*, *d.* 1249.—Shield-shaped, 1233. A shield of arms: fretty, on a canton a cross pattée.

SIGILLVM HENRICI DE ALDIT . . E.

9. (cxiii. 3.)

10. (cxiii. 6.)

PLATE II.

11. (cxiii. 8.)

12. (xcii. 90.)—*Sir William de Fentun.*—A shield of arms, 13th century: three crescents.

S' DOMINI WILELMI DE FENTUN.

13. (lxxx. 81.)—*Robert de Stafford*, 13th century.—To the r. In armour: hauberk of mail, conical helmet with nasal, sword, convex shield, ornamented with a central spike and radiating lines.

SIGILV̄ RODBERTI DE STRAFORD.

14. (Cott. ch. xi. 28.)—*Piers de Montfort*, of Beaudesert, Warw., d. 1265.—A shield of arms of early shape: bendy of six. Between a cinquefoil above and two fleurs de lis at the sides.

SIGI . . . . . D . . . TF . . .

15. (Harl. ch. 53 D. 4.)—*Philip Marmion*, of Tamworth, *d.* 1291.—A shield of arms of early shape: vaire, a fesse diapered. Between three swords, in reference to his office as champion, 1265.

SIGILLVM : PHILIPPI : MARM . . .

16. (D.C., F. 616.)—*Joan Ferrers*, 13th century.—Pointed oval. In tightly-fitting dress, cloak, flat headdress, in each hand by the strap a shield of arms: r., a cross moline; l., vaire, a bordure charged with nine horseshoes.

SIGILLVM . IOHANNE . . . . . .

17. (xci. 69.)—*Sayer de Harcourt*, 1269.—A shield of arms of early shape: two bars.

SIGILLVM : SEERI : DE : HARECVRT.

18. (lxxxvi. 64.)—*Ralph de Grendone*, of Shenstone, 1301.—A shield of arms: two chevrons.

S' RAD'I DE GRENDONE.

19. (lxxxiv. 97.)—*Peter Corbet*, of Caus, 1280.—A shield of arms: two crows in pale. Between two wyverns without wings.

SIGILLVM PETRI CORBET.

20. (xc. 91.)—*Alianora de Verdon*, 1275.—Probably second wife of John de Verdon of Alton, d. 1273, and a daughter of Bohun.—A shield of arms: per pale, *dex.*, fretty, VERDON; *sin.*, a bend cotised between six lioncels rampant, BOHUN. Legend, a rhyming verse in Norman French:

BOVN . ME . DO - - - N - - - A.
DE . VOS . ESKVZ . A - - VS . E - - A.

21. (xcii. 60.)—*Boyce de Knovill*, of Oswestry, 1301.—A shield of arms: three pierced mullets of six points, in chief a label of five points.

S' BOGONIS . DE . KNOVILE .

22. (lxxxviii. 30.)—*Edmund Mortimer*, of Wigmore, 1301.—A shield of arms: MORTIMER.

S' EDMUNDI . . . . . MARI COM' MARCHI.

Plate III.

23. (lxxxii. 30.)—*James de Audley*, of Heley, *d.* 1272. 1259, a shield of arms: fretty.

SIGILL' : IACOBI : DE : DE : AVDEDELEGA.

24. (Cott. ch. xxix. 57.)—*Edmund, baron of Stafford*, 1301.—A shield of arms: a chevron. Suspended by a strap from a hook, and between two small crosslets.

S' EDMUNDI STAFFORD . . .

25. (lxxxv. 37.)—*Hugh le Despencer*, the elder, 1304.—A shield of arms: quarterly, in the 2nd and 3rd quarters a fret, over all a bend.

SIGILLVM HVGONIS LE DESPENSER.

26. (Harl. ch. 45 E. 36.)—*Hugh d'Audley*, of Horseheath, Cambs., 1305.—A shield of arms: fretty, a label of three points. Legend, between four human heads, with side hair curled.

S'HVG - - - ONIS - - - DAVD - - - ELEE.

27. (cxli. 34.) . . . . *de Pileby*, Archdeacon of Stafford.

28. (cxiii. 9.)—A Gresley seal, non-armorial.

29. (cxlix. 8.)

30. (cxiii. 12.)—A Gresley seal, non-armorial.

31. (cxiii. 13.)—A Gresley seal. A lion passant with vaire on its mane Early example of heraldry, not on a shield.

32. (xc. 47.)—*Philip de Somervill*, of Wichnor, 1305.—A shield of arms: three eagles displayed between seven crosses crosslet fitchées, SOMERVILLE. Between two wyverns.

S'PH'I . SOMERVILE . DE . WYCHYNOVER . DNI.

33. (cxiii. 23.) . . . . *de Hopwas*, c. 1350.—A shield of arms: a bend with three roundels between six ? pheons.

SIGI - - - - - - - - - - DI DE - - - WAS.

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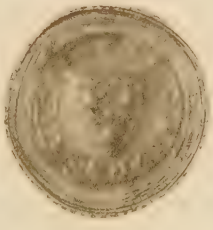

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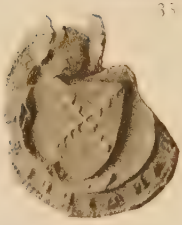

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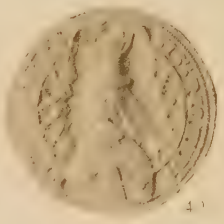

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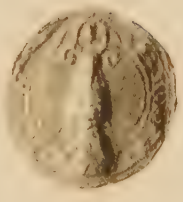

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34. (xlvii. 1203.)—*Roger Hillary, C.J.*—A shield of arms : crusily-fitchée, three leopards' faces, two and one.

HILLARY. SEL . PRIVE . SVY . APELE.

Plate IV.

35. (xliii. 186.)—*Adam de Shareshulle, c.* 1330.—Shield of arms : barry nebuly of six on a border, eleven stars pierced. Hung by a strap from a rosette. Between two wyverns.

SIGILLVM . ADE . DE . SHARESHVLLE.

36. (Cott. ch. xxix. 87.)—*John Trussel*, of Cublesdon, 1337.—Shield of arms *couché* : fretty on each joint a bezant. Crest, on a helmet and short mantling, out of a coronet an ass's head. The background of oak leaves springing from the panel work. Within a finely traced carved Gothic panel.

S' : IOH'IS : TRVSSEL : DE : CVBLESDONE :

37. (Harl. ch. 47 E. 38.)—*Elizabeth de Burgh*, lady of Clare, *d.* 1360, dau. of Gilbert de Clare, *m.* (1), John de Burgh, *d.* 1313 ; (2), Theobald de Verdon, *d.* 1316 ; (3), Sir Roger Damory, *d.* 1321. a shield of arms : 1333 ; barry nebuly of six, over all a bend, SIR ROGER DAMORY. Between three lions for ENGLAND. In various roundels are the arms of John de Burgh, a cross and label ; Clare, three chevrons ; Verdon, fretty. Elsewhere are castles for CASTILE, and a lion rampant for LEON.

38. (Add. ch. 20,450.)—*William Trumwyn*, of Cannock, 1343.—A shield of arms : a saltire lozengy or engrailed.

(SIGIL)LVM WILL'I TRVMW . . .

39. (cxiii. 21.)—*Robt. (?) de Ridware.*—A shield of arms : an eagle, apparently two-headed, displayed. Within a star frame.

S' ROBERTI DE RIDWARE ??

40. (cxiii. 24.)—*Richard de Stafford, c.* 1360.—A shield of arms *couché :* a chevron between three martlets, STAFFORD. Crest on a helmet and wreath, a wolf's head erased. Within a carved Gothic panel enriched with open tracery between the points.

SIG : RICARDI : DE : STAFFORD.

41. (cliv. 86.)—*Ralph, Lord Stafford*, created earl in 135 .—A shield of arms : a chevron.

RADULPHI . BARONIS . DE . STAFFORD.

42. (Cott. ch. xxv. ii.)—*Roger de Chetwynd*, of Shenston Manor, 1344.—A shield of arms *couché :* a chevron between three mullets, CHETWYND. Crest, on a helmet and short mantling, two hands and arms in armour holding the letter I crowned. In place of the legend the letter I repeated twelve times, in between as many roses.

43. (Harl. ch. 45 E. 38.)—*James, Lord Audley*, of Heley, *d.* 138 .—A shield of arms *couché:* fretty. AUDLEY. Crest, on a helmet, with grating and lambrequin, a (griffin's ?) head and wings erect. Background diapered fretty with annulets and quatrefoils. Legend wanting.

44. (Add. ch. 21,070.)—*John de Suttone*, of Co. Chester, Kt., 1319.—A shield of arms ; a cross flory. Above the shield a strap ; at each side a wyvern.

S' IOHANNIS . DE . SVTTONE.

45. (Cott. ch. xxvii. 193.)—*John, son and heir of Malcolm Musard*, 1350.—A shield of arms *couché:* a lion rampant with forked tail crowned. Crest, on a helmet, facing to the front, a ram's head and neck affrontée, between the attires, a bell.

S' . IOH'IS . MVSARD.

46. (Harl. ch. 54 D. 28.)—*John de Oddingeseles*, of Barlaston, chev. 1350.—A shield of arms *couché:* a fesse and in dexter chief a mullet. Crest, on a helmet and mantling, on a hat, a fox passant.

. . . . . LVM : IOHA . . E : . . : ODDYNGESE . . .

47. (Woll. ch. vi. 7.)—*Walter, son of Walter de Ridware*, of Hamstall Ridware, 1352.—A shield of arms *couché:* an eagle displayed. Crest, on a helmet and cappeline, out of a coronet an eagle's head and neck.

S' . WALTERI . RYDWAR'.

48. (Harl. ch. 56 E. 3.)—*John de Stafford*, of Bramshall, 1353.—A shield of arms : a chevron with some charges perhaps on the chevron.

SIGILLVM . IOHANNIS . STAFFORD.

49. (D.C., F. 375.)—*Ralph, Lord Stafford*, 1351.—A shield of arms : field diapered lozengy, with an annulet in each interstitial space, a chevron.

Sigillv . Radulphi . comitis . de . Stafforde.

PLATE V.

50. (lxxxv. 31.)—*Philip, Lord of Leya*, 13th century.—A shield of arms of early form : a fesse embattled between, six birds within a border.

SIGILLVM PHILIPPI D DE LEYA.

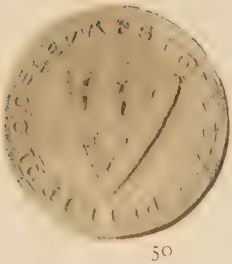
51. (xlvii. 1065.)—*Robert, Earl Ferrers, c.* 1265.—To the r. In armour hauberk, surcoat, flat-topped helmet with vizor down, sword, shield slung over shoulder. Horse galloping caparisoned. Arms : vaire.

ROB̄S . FIL' . ET . HERES . DN̄I . WILL'I . DE . FERRAR' . QŌDA . COMITIS . DERBEYE.

52. (cxiii. 1.)—*Burton Abbey.*

53. (lxxii. 51.)—*Newcastle-under-Lyme*, 13th century.—On waves, a low embattled wall, enclosing an edifice with two gables each side ; on the central embattled tower a banner between two men-at-arms. On a frieze three shields of arms : (1) a lion rampant within a bordure EDMUND OF CORNWALL ; (2) ? ENGLAND ; (3) ? CHESTER.

SIGILL' : COMVNE : BVRGENSIVM : NOVI : CASTELLI.



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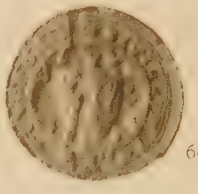

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54. (xlvii. 908.)—Stafford Borough, 13th century.—A triple-towered castle, masoned and embattled, quatrefoiled windows, doors thrown back, portcullis half down. In the field, two lions passant on each side, ENGLAND. Fish in water in the base.

SIGILLVM . COMUNITATIS . VILLE . STAFFORDIE.

55. Ø. (lxxxi. 12, 13.)—*Theobald de Verdon*, of Alton, *d.* 1295–1309.—1301. Ø. To the r. In armour: hauberk of mail, helmet with vizor closed, sword, shield of arms. Horse caparisoned. Arms: fretty.

SIGILLVM THEOBALDI DE VERDVN.

55. Ꝛ. (lxxxi. 12, 13.)—A shield of arms as in the obverse, suspended from a tree, with two smaller trees at the side. In the field a lion passant on each side arranged palewise, forming a kind of early supporter.

CONSTABVLARII : HYBERNIE.

56. (xc. 54.)—*John Talbot, lord of Furnival and Alton*, Marshal of France, 1409–21.—A shield of arms *couché:* a lion rampant within a border engrailed, TALBOT. Crest on a helmet and hat, a lion sitting. Supporters, two lions sitting.

SIGILL' . IOH'IS . TALBOT . DNI . DE . FURNYVALL.

57. (Woll. ch. x. 30.)—*Richard Vernon*, of Harlaston, Speaker of the House of Commons.—1447; a shield of arms *couché:* fretty, a canton. Crest, on a helmet, a boar's head, erased.

SIGILLU . RICARDI VERNOUN MILITIS.

58. (c. 1.)—*Humphrey Stafford, Duke of Buckingham.*—1442–60; a shield of arms *couché:* quarterly, (1) and (4) England and France; (2) Bohun; (3) Bohun of Northampton; (4) Stafford. Crest, on a helmet, out of a coronet a swan head and neck between two wings elevated. Supporters, two antelopes.

59. (lxxii. 55.)—*Walsall Borough.* 15th century.—A shield of arms: England and France, for Henry V. or VI. ensigned, with an open coronet of fleur-de-lis. Supporters, two lions sejant.

S' . CŌE . MAIORIS COMUNITATIS VILLE DNI REG' DE WALSAL.

60. (clv. 1.)—*Lichfield Borough.*

Plate VI.

61. (xxxvi. 74.)—*Ralph Basset*, of Weldon, *d.* 1341.—A shield of arms: three pales within a bordure bezantée. Suspended by a loop, between two wyverns without wings.

S' RADVLFI BASSET DE WELLEDONE.

62. (xcii. 32.)—*Thomas de Holand, d.* 1360. -1354; on a mount a flowering tree, thereon, suspended by a strap, a shield of arms: the charges entirely obliterated. On each side, on a helmet, out of a coronet, a plume of ostrich feathers.

Sigillum thome de holand.

63. (lxxxv. 32.)—*John Delves*, 1367.—A shield of arms : a chevron fretty between three delves. Suspended by a strap from a tree of three branches.

SIGILLUM . . . . IS DE DELVES.

64. (D.C. F. 484.)—*Hugh, 2nd Earl Stafford*, 1372.—A shield of arms : field diapered with sprigs of foliage, a chevron. Hung by a strap from a forked tree on a mount, and having at each side a small tree.

SIGILLU HUGONIS COMIT . . STAFFORDIE.

65. (lxxxvi. 35.)—*Baldwin de Freville*, of Tamworth, 1368.—A shield of arms *couché :* a cross flory. The shield resting on a helmet as if it were a lambrequin. Crest on the helmet, out of a coronet a garb.

S . . . . WYNI : . . . FREVYLE.

66. (Cott. ch. xxvi. 15.)—*John Hastang*, 1354.—A shield of arms : a chief over all a lion rampant.

SIGILLV' . IOHANNIS . HASTANG.

67. (Harl. ch. iii. F. 19.)—*Robert son of Robert Corbet*, of Hadley and King's Bromley, 1380.—A shield of arms, two bars, in chief a label of three points. Hung by a strap from a forked tree, and within a Gothic panel.

S' ROBERTI . CORBET.

68. (Harl. ch. iii. G. 40.)—*William Bagot*, of Baginton, 1396.—A shield of arms : on a chevron, between three martlets, a crescent for difference, BAGOT. Hung by a strap from a forked oak-tree.

Sigillum willelmi bagot.

69. (Harl. ch. 112 G. 26.)—*John de Verdon*, of Co. Norf., 1377.—A shield of arms : a lion rampant.

SIGILLUM IOH'IS DE VERDOVN.

70. (Cott. ch. xxviii. 104.)—*Margaret de Pulesdon*, sister and heir of Simon de Neuton of Cos. Derby and Staffs., 1388.—A shield of arms : per pale, *dex.*, a chevron between three pierced mullets for PULESDON (?) ; *sin.*, on a chevron three annulets, on a chief a cross flory, for NEUTON (?). Supported by two lions rampant.

SIG : MARGARETE : DE : PULESDON.

71. (Woll. ch. x. 55.)—*Alice, widow of Sir Thomas de Stafford*, of Seile, sister and co-heir of Sir John Sulny, 1419.—A shield of arms : per pale, *dex.*, a chevron between three martlets, STAFFORD ; *sin.*, quarterly, SULNY.

SIGILLU : ALICIE : DE : STAFFORDE.

72. (xcii. 18.)—*Robert Hill.*—Arms : per pale, *dex.*, a saltaire vair between four mullets pierced, HILL ; *sin.*, a lion rampant debruised by a bend. *c.* 1450.

73. (cv. 58.)—*Thomas Giffard*, of Brimsfield, *c.* 1300.—A shield of arms : three lions passant and a label.

74. (lxxx. iv. 17.)—*John Bruyn*, of Bridgnorth, Co. Salop, 1434.—Shield of arms : an eagle displayed. Hung by a strap from a tree.

Sigill' : iohis : bruyn.

REVIEWS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

REVIEWS AND CORRESPONDENCE.

CLOSE ROLLS, HENRY III., 1237–42.

H.M. Stationery Office, 1911.

The history of these years consists mainly of the struggle of the English, headed by the clergy, against the legate Otho and the foreign favourites of the king, chief among whom was William de Valence. It ends with the king's futile and feeble attack on France.

An echo of this opposition between Henry and the archbishop may be seen in the mandate of November 6th, 1239, to the sheriff of Staffordshire, to release and cease all proceedings against the four servants of Simon de Norwich, the king's servant, who had been excommunicated by the archdeacon of Stafford on the orders of the archbishop.

The one successful effort on the part of the king occurred in August, 1241, when, using Henry de Audley as ambassador, he settled peace with the Welsh at Chester. In returning he passed through Staffordshire, resting at Newcastle on September 6th, at Heywood on the 7th, at Lichfield on the 9th, and at Kenilworth on the 11th.

There was little for the king to fear from the Staffordshire baronage at this time. The great earl of Chester had died in 1232; John Scot, the last earl, died in 1237; and we may observe that the 60*s.* that the burgesses of Newcastle paid to the abbot of Chester was "to pray for the soul of the earl Ranulf." The Chester palatinate was now divided among the co-heirs. One of these co-heirs, Ada, had married Henry de Hastinges; and, in 1238, an exchange was effected, whereby she gave up her share and took instead the manors of Wiggington and Wolverhampton in Staffs. and other manors elsewhere. While Hugh le Despencer, soon to be a danger to the crown, was in 1238 still a minor "son

of Hugh Despencer" and in ward to Geoffrey le Despencer, one of the king's servants.

John Lascy, earl of Lincoln, died in 1240, and his widow, we find, had Cauldon in dower. John FitzAlan also died in 1240, and Hawise, his widow, is assigned in dower four and one-sixth knights' fees in Staffordshire, which, we are told, were held by Alan Mauveysin, Hugh de Weston, William Panton, Henry Mauveysin, Geofrey de Gresley (not Grateleg), Robert de Hageleton (Haughton) and James and Michael de Morton, and John Coinee (not Comee). According to the *Testa* the fees would be respectively,—Cotes by Stafford ($\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{3}$), Weston-under-Lizeard and Newton (1), Hales ($\frac{1}{2}$), Rideware Mauveysin ($\frac{1}{2}$), Kingston ($\frac{1}{2}$), Moreton ($\frac{1}{2}$), Weston Coyney (1), making four and a third in all. The *Testa* does not, however, mention the partnership of the Haughtons in Morton, nor the name of Alan Mauveysin the tenant at Cotes. Further light is shed on the *Testa* by an entry referring to the Stafford barony. Hervey de Stafford died in 1237, and his eldest son, Hervey, in 1241. A Close Roll of April 28th, 1242, shows that Mabel, daughter of Robert de Mucegros, widow of Hervey de Stafford, is given seisin of the custody of the lands and heir of Ralph de Mutton of Ingestre, Gratwich and Reule, "which Hervey had left her in his will." So that Ralph de Mutton must have been dead in 1241. Another reference to a Stafford will shows that such wills were not rare. In May 3rd, 1242, Margery, sister of Robert de Stafford (brother and heir of the last-named Hervey), is to have seisin of the custody of the manor of Tean, late of Gilbert de Bec, which had been taken into the king's hands on the death of Hervey, and which Hervey, and Hervey his father, had both bequeathed to Margery. Therefore Gilbert de Bec was dead in 1237, and his son and heir, Robert, of age in 1247 and dead in 1254, was not of full age in 1243, at the date of the *Testa*.

A most important writ close, dated June 15th, 1242, from Saintes in Gascony, summons each of a long list of barons to join the king in France. It is noted in the margin as sent "*baronibus angliæ*," and might almost constitute a writ of summons and become the title to a resurrected peerage (pp. 498, 527). The only Staffordshire baron so summoned was Ralph Basset.

No doubt it was the prospective war with France which

caused the king to issue urgent mandates to the sheriffs, on March 21st, 1242, to distrain all who held £20 of land to take up knighthood, and we hear of William de Stafford being respited till Michaelmas from taking up this title of honour in Co. Nottingham. Directly after the king's departure for Gascony in May, 1242, the sheriffs and two others are appointed in each county "*ad arma juranda et assidenda et ad pacem nostram conservandam.*" These "keepers of the peace" during the king's absence were, in Staffordshire: the sheriff, John l'Estrange of Knockyn; Ralph Basset of Drayton; and Robert de Grendon.

A large number of writs deal with forest matters, and the purveyance of food for the Royal Household. Hugh de Loges, the forester of Cannock, is to give to the canons of Lichfield oaks from Hopwas Hay, 1238; the vivaries of Stretton, Stafford and Newcastle provide fish to be sent to Shrewsbury, September, 1238; the custodian of the bishopric is to let Hervey de Stafford have some oaks, November, 1239; the constable of Newcastle is to let Simon of Norwich, the king's servant, have oaks out of Newcastle wood, December, 1241. Hugh de Loges takes John of Aldridge prisoner for a forest offence and hands him over to the sheriff, 1237.

A pardon for homicide is granted to Geofrey, son of John de Colwich, for killing by accident his brother Nigel, 1240. And Robert Poliot, who fled from justice after killing his man, left a wife, or widow, Margery, to whom the king's grace was extended, in so far as she was to recover the third part of a knight's fee in Envill—hers by the gift of her first husband, John de Evenefeld, 1242, the heir of Envill was still a minor in 1243.

It is by letters close that the lands of outlaws, that had been a year and a day in the king's waste, were restored to their chief lords. In this way the prior of St. Thomas gets the land in Orbrichton (Orberton), which Roger son of Bernard had held of him, who slew Richard Forejate, 1238; and so Henry de Smallrise gets the land which Isolda daughter of William held of him "who was hung for felony," 1242. These writs to give seisin were sent to the sheriff, and it was he too who was ordered to arrange perambulations to determine boundaries. Such perambulations took place at Barre in 1240, between Great Barre, the land

of Richard de Barre[1]; and in 1241 between Perry, the land of William de Pirie, and Witton in Warwickshire, the land of Andrew de Witton. Twelve knights from each county made the perambulation.

CALENDAR OF CHANCERY ROLLS, VARIOUS, 1277–1326.

H.M. Stationery Office, 1912.

This volume deals with certain rolls of Chancery which do not belong to any of the larger series. Welsh rolls form the larger part and contain material very valuable for the last years of Welsh independence. The rest deal with taxation and scutage; the names of those exempted from the latter tax show the actual military service of the tenants in chief.

The volume opens with long lists of those who have licence, in 1277, to export wool, among whom we find Simon de Pikstock, merchant of Stafford. In 1296 the king, in order to force the hands of the clergy, seised all their lay fees, with the goods and chattels found therein, and another long list of February, 1297, orders the restoration of the fees and chattels in those cases where a subsidy of one-fifth had been paid in. From Staffordshire there are :—Master Reyner de Wychio, canon of St. Chad's; the prior of Dudley; Philip de Everdon; the prior of Calwich; the prior of Sandwell; the prioress of Fairwell; Hugh of Little Ridware, chaplain; Peter, parson of the church of Arley; John, vicar of the church of Packington; Geoffrey de Stokwell, parson of Allesley and prebendary of Gnosall; Master Elias de Napton, parson of Eccleshall, etc.; Richard de Bisshopeston, parson of Tixall, etc.

But the most valuable list is that of date 1303, which gives the names of the tenants of small fees of mortain, who claimed to pay only two-thirds of the scutage paid by the tenants of full fees. Certain fees of this nature are in Cornwall and Devon, and one or two in Cambridge, Leicester and Salop, but the large

[1] It is strange that the *Testa* contains no notice of the tenure of Richard de Grendon at Great Barre. Like his elder brother, Robert, at Shenstone, he held of the d'Oilly barony. Little Barre was held of the Somerys.

majority of these fees are those held of the barony of Stafford in Staffordshire. The writ is directed to the sheriff of Stafford and Robert de Staundon, appointed to collect the aid, to respite one-third of the aid, until the king shall cause other provision to be made by his council, in favour of the following :—

Adam de Brumpton, 1 (Wood Eaton). (As in 1243.)
Richard de Stretton (Stretton, Dunston and Water Eaton). (As in 1243.)
Robert de Bek (Hopton and Tene). (Heirs of Gilbert, in 1243.)
John de Longford, ½, Ethelaston and Staunton. (Nigel, in 1243.)
Eleanor Basset, 1, Madeleye Alfoul (*i.e.*, of Weldon).
Alan de Audeleye, 1, Blore and Grendon. (William, in 1243.)
Otewel Purcel, 1, Sharschulf, "called a small fee of Stafford."
William de la Pole, 1, Great Sardon. (Henry de Audley, in 1243.)
Henry Salt, 1, Salt. (Ivo, in 1243.)
Robert de Staunton, 1, Weston, and 1, Staunton. (Vivian, in 1243.)
Henry de Cavreswell, 1, Levedale (Hy. de Verdon and partners in 1243.)
Robert Morice, 1, Blymenhull. (Heirs of John Bagot in 1243.)
John FitzPhilip, 1, Berleston (and Bobbington). (Same in 1243.)
Roger de Aston, ½, Walton-near-Stone. (Ivo de Walton, in 1243.)
Robert le Mareschal, John de Venables (*i.e.*, Joan), and Gilbert de Aston, 1, Overton (*i.e.*, Aston).
Stephen, parson of Swynnerton, 1, Swyverenton.

The tenant of Blymhill is a difficulty. Mr. Bridgeman points out that John de Ipstones was then under age, and Robert Morice may have been his guardian. Nor, by any means, are all of the arriere tenants of the Stafford barony included in this list, which consists partly of repetition, and which is, I expect, an

incomplete fragment. The other tenants present no difficulties, with the corrections of Joan for John and Aston for an imaginary Overton.

The four scutages more particularly referred to in this volume are those raised for the expeditions to Wales in 1282, and to Scotland in 1303, 1306, 1319.

The following Staffordshire tenants are, in 1285, exempted from the scutage of 1282 on the ground of personal service:—

Nicholas, baron Stafford, Roger de Somery, Richard de Harecurt, Roger le Zouche, Edmund, the king's brother, Walter de Hopton and Maud Panton, Lady of Wemme, Theobald de Verdon, Geoffrey de Geneville (Joinville); while the bishop, Philip Marmion, Ralph Basset of Weldon, and the custodian of the lands of Richard FitzAlan, all made fine with the king for their scutage and were exempted also.

For taking part in the expedition of 1303 the following are exempted from scutage:—Geoffrey de Caumvill, John de Sumery, John de Ferrars of Chartley, Guy de Beauchamp, Edmund FitzAlan, earl of Arundel, Thomas earl of Lancaster, Edmund de Sumervill, Thomas de Bikenor, and the executors of John de Hastinges are given power in 1315 to levy scutage, as having been with the king in the expedition of 1306.

Orders to have scutage were, in 1319, issued to Thomas de Pipe, John de Somery, Ralph le Botiler, in connection with the Scottish expedition of 1311.

But the scutage rolls are not the only ones that tell us of the warlike service of the tenants in chief. Similar information is conveyed by the Welsh and Supplementary Rolls. Thus, in 1303, we find Hugh le Despencer, Robert de Halghton, Robert de Grendon, John de Somery, William Bagot, Robert de Bures and Theobald de Verdon, on account of their service in Scotland in that year, exempted from the aid of 40*s*., a knight's fee, granted in order to marry the king's eldest daughter. John de Somery and Robert de Bures were serving again in the Scottish expedition of 1306—the latter had been bailiff of Queen Eleanor, was lord by lease of Chartley, and is described in 1306 as "the elder," which shows that the warrior of later years was a son of the same name.

Edmund de Stafford had also served in the expeditions of

1300 and 1303, but he was dead in 1306, and the exemption is granted to Thomas de Pipe and Margery his wife, the widow of the Lord Edmund. William de Aldithelye (Audley), William le Botiler and Roger de Somery are among those ordered to assist Roger Mortimer in the Welsh expedition of 1282; and from a safe conduct issued for the men of Ralph Basset of Drayton we see that he too took part in the foray. Audley, we know, died on this expedition, but, on June 28th, he is empowered to receive the men of Owen ap Griffin ap Madoc to the king's will, "*de alto et basso*," whatever that may mean. Botiler of Wemme, "for his praiseworthy service to the king," had not only an important command at Whitchurch, but was also granted a special exemption for the service of three knights that his mother, Maud de Wemme, ought to have made.

In other rolls we find recorded letters of protection for those who went to war in Wales. Nicholas de Audley and Hugh le Despencer had such in 1292; Simon Basset, Ralph Basset of Sapecote, and Edmund, Baron of Stafford "setting out with Ralph Basset of Drayton," obtained similar letters in 1293.

As regards the levying and provisioning of the rank and file we have ample material in this volume to see how it was managed. In 1283 all the royal officers in Salop and Staffs. are ordered to assist Richard of Wood, "his knight," "to make provision of 2,500 footmen by election" to be conducted to the king at Montgomery; also to "make provision of corn, victuals and carriage thereof to Montgomery." Again in 1287 the sheriffs of the two counties are ordered to provide 500 footmen at arms without delay, and to have them ready at the order of Edmund Mortimer or John Giffard against Rhys of West Wales. They are also ordered to have at Bridgnorth 2,000 diggers and woodcutters to go with Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, at wages.

Provender was not provided only by the royal officers. Many of the lords found their own, or procured the same at public expense from their own lands, just as the burghers did during the South African war. So the men of Theobald de Verdon, Ralph Basset and Geoffrey de Genevill (Joinville), have safe conduct to bring provisions. Other parties, such as the monks of St. Thomas by Stafford, John de Derby, dean, and Adam de

Walton, chancellor of Lichfield, the abbot of Deulacres, have exemptions from having their wagons and forage commandeered. It is Sir William Bagot of the Hyde who is in charge of the provisioning of the army from the four border counties in 1282. He is to buy at the fairs and forward the goods. Letters of safe conduct to those bringing up the supplies to the front are issued the same year to Robert, son of Giles de Ruggeley, John Betun and Simon his brother, William de Pakinton, and Richard Garland, all of Stafford, Robert Museberd of Enestone, Robert le Venur, and Roger le Pestur of Uttoxeter, John de Cnoton and Geoffrey of Newcastle, William Wilcher of Lichfield and Humphrey le Sauser of Burton. There is special power given to Bagot to "make prize in the king's name of the victuals of those who buy the corn of others in order that they may thereafter sell the same more dearly." The processes of commandeering are as old as the art of war.

Sir William Bagot was only one of the royal servants who did the staff work of the wars. There was also Sir William Wyther in 1282, well known in Staffordshire, and Sir Roger Sprenghose, sheriff of Staffs. 1278–86, was captain of the garrison of Oswestry in 1282. The mysterious Leon or Leofwin, Sprenghose's successor as sheriff in 1286–8, appears as Leonius fitz Leonius, king's clerk, in 1278. While such Staffordshire men as Robert de Staundon and Master Richard de Pulesdon were appointed in 1284 as the first sheriffs of Merioneth and of Anglesey and Carnarvon respectively. Robert de Staundon was afterwards, 1291, justice of North Wales, and Thomas de Pyvelsdon appears as witness to a royal grant of 1290. There appears to have been a sort of a back-to-the-land movement even then; for Master William de Perton is given power to root up the king's woods at Rhuddlan, and grant the land that they clear to all those who do the work, quit of rent for three years. He is also to keep a register of sales, deliveries, grants, feofments and their forms, which shall always be preserved as a record in the castle, in fact a regular register of title.

CALENDAR OF CHARTER ROLLS, IV, 1327–41.

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE, 1912.

From the point of view of the material contained in this volume the dates describing it above are most misleading. Very largely it consists of the confirmations of old charters, particularly of monastic charters. Many of these are spurious, and are so denounced by the editor, Mr. H. W. C. Davis. The genuine ones which are set out in full, begin with the reign of Henry I. The *inspeximus* of the Deulacres deeds, referred to on p. 30 of Vol. IX, N.S., of these *Transactions*, is to be found in this series. The Deulacres Cartulary in that volume is, as its stands, imperfect; and, though many of the deeds inspected in this confirmation of Edward III. are the same as those in the cartulary printed in our Vol. IX, N.S., yet so many variations occur, particularly in the names of witnesses and descriptions of boundaries, that careful collation is required before making use of the deeds in either the cartulary or the *inspeximus*. Some deeds, moreover, given in the *inspeximus*, are absent entirely, both from Sleigh's *Leek* and also from the Parker and Huntbach Cartulary that we printed.

The *inspeximus* is dated January 30th, 1330, and contains the following (the Nos. given refer to the numbers in Vol. IX, N.S. I have added the dates):—

1. No. 116, date 1247.
2. See *Cal. Charter Rolls*, II, 264, date 1282 (see also Sleigh, *Leek*, p. 43).
3. No. 184, date 1231.
4. No. 1, date 1207.
5. Inspecting and confirming 3, date October 25th, 1231.
6. No. 3, date 1217–26. (This is the charter of the earl of Chester granting the church of Leek to the monks. The first witness is given as "H. (*i.e.*, Hugh), abbot of Chester," not W. as in Vol. IX, N.S., thus materially altering the date, which should be as I have here indicated.)
7. A charter, whereby Ranulf earl of Chester and Lincoln gave, so far as a patron can, to St. Mary and the monks of Deulacresse the church of Sandbach, to be

held to their own uses, retaining nothing to himself or his heirs except prayers. Witnesses, Sir Walter, abbot of Chester, Sir William de Vernon, justice of Chester, William de Cantelupo, Fulk son of Warin, Ralph de Bray, Baldwin de Ver, Richard Phiton, Richard de Burun, Simon the clerk (date 1229–32).

8. A charter, whereby Ranulf earl of Chester granted to the abbot and monks of Deulacresse, in frank almoign, a salt-pan in Middlewich, which William de Meisnil-warin gave to them, quit of toll, suit of Wychmote and all secular customs, to be held with the salt of Friday; with further grant to the said abbot and monks and the men boiling salt in their houses of the right to take salt water from all pits. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, Henry de Aldithelea, Peter the earl's clerk, Warin de Vernun, William de Venables, Hugh and Thomas and Henry and Robert and Geoffrey Dispensar', Walter de Davilla, Robert de Coudray, Alvred de Suligni (date 1214–17). (This should be compared with No. 125 of Vol. IX, N.S., where the earl is described as of Lincoln also, thus postdating the charter. The witnesses, too, are different, being such as would fix the date at 1228.)
9. This, while the same as No. 183 in its main features, has an entirely different set of witnesses and, in describing the boundaries of Rudyard, mentions Quain-ende-hull and Ludde-broc instead of Gaviendehul and Ludde-beche. The earl of Chester *and Lincoln* (*i.e.*, after October, 1217) is granting Rudyard "to build there an abbey," and the witnesses are, William de Ferrers, earl of Derby, John, earl of Huntendon, John, constable of Chester, William de Cantelu, William de Vernon, Justice of Chester, Baldwin de Ver, Walter de Deyvill, Ralph de Brey, Richard de Burun, John de Laxington, Simon the clerk, Richard de Ardern, etc. (date 1228–32).
10. No. 164, date 1217–26. (The abbot is given as Henry in No. 164, of course it should be abbot Hugh, here written "H.")
11. No. 169, date 1213–7.

12. This is a repeat of the preceding, except that two new witnesses are added at the end, viz., Peter and Richard de Kegworth, clerks. The exemption clause is also amplified. The monks are to be quit of passage, pontage, multure in all the earl's mills, pannage in all his woods, "*sallinis*," murage, toll, and all aids and mises (*misionibus seu positionibus*), customs and demands, for the lands acquired or to be acquired by them. (If Ranulf founded the abbey as stated by the *Monasticon* on May 1st, 1214, the limits of date would be still further narrowed; indeed I think it likely that this deed passed early in 1217, and before the earl's departure for the Holy Land, as was assuredly the following, of which the wording is very similar.)
13. No. 170, date 1217.
14. A charter, whereby Ranulf earl of Chester granted to his abbot and monks of Deulacresse all the town of Biveleh, in frank almoin, as the charters of the givers, sellers and exchangers testify; with further gift of quittance of army, shire, hundred, and all pleas, puture of serjeants, and of all demands and customs belonging to the earl and his heirs. Witnesses, Philip de Orreby, justice of Chester, Roger de Monhaud, steward of Chester, William de Venables, Warin de Vernon, Henry de Alditele, Roger de Meidnilwarin, Hamo de Mascy, Hugh and Thomas Dispenser, Walter de Deyvill, Peter the earl's clerk, Alvred de Suligni, Hugh de Pascy, Lid(ulph) de Tuaml(ow), Richard his son, Master Hugh, Richard de Kegworth, clerk (date 1214–7). (This should be collated with No. 65, Vol. IX, N.S., which seems to be a repeat of later date with quite different witnesses.)
15. A charter of Prince Edward, dated at Chester January 5th, 54 H. III. (1270), (see *Cal. Charter Rolls*, II, p. 418); the witnesses include Henry de Lascy, James de Audley, Roger de Clifford, Urian de St. Pierre, sheriff of Staffordshire, etc. If St. Pierre was really sheriff at this date there is something wrong with the list of sheriffs in Vol. 1912, p. 276.

16. Letters patent of the same Prince Edward, granting powers to approve the waste in Byley, dated February 15th, 1270, at Westminster.
17. No. 79, but see also for a fuller version *Monasticon*, V, p. 628, No. iii. The date is 1178–81.
18. No. 77, date 1160–81. This version gives, however, all the bounds of the land round Eaton, omitted from No. 77.
19. No. 80. But, whereas in No. 80 the witness, Philip de Orreby, has after his name the word "*tunc*," meaning "then justice of Chester" (1209–29), in this charter there is no such qualification, and the deed may well have passed before 1209. The later limit is fixed by the transference of the monks from Pulton to Deulacresse, 1214.
20. A writing whereby John de Scotia, earl of Chester and Huntingdon, quitclaimed to the abbey of Deulacres and the monks there, in frank almoin, all the homages and services belonging to the manor of Leek, so that neither he nor his heirs can exact aught in the said manor, but the abbot and monks shall possess the said manor with its liberties pursuant to the charter of earl Ranulf the grantor's uncle. Witnesses, Sir Alexander, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, Walter, abbot of Chester, Robert, abbot of Cumbermere, Henry de Auditheleg, Warin de Vernun, William de Breyn, Ralph de Camays, Ralph de Say, Hancketin de Follevill, with further confirmation of the following (and there follow recitals of ten grants from private donors which all save one appear already in Vol. IX, N.S. The date of the writing is 1233–6).

The one deed recited that is new, is as follows:—

The quitclaim of William, son and heir of Richard, late lord of Chetelton to the abbot and convent of Deulacresse of all his right in the advowson of the church or chapel of Chetelton and in all the land thereto belonging. (There are no witnesses given, but the date must be within the limits 1214–32. As, according to No. 10,

Vol. IX, N.S., this church was presented to the monks in 1214–27 by Hugh, lord of Chetelton, this makes a difficulty. In any case a William de Cheddleton had succeeded either Hugh or Richard or William by 1227, see Vol. IV, p. 49, where he is said to have succeeded his uncle William. There may have been two Williams in succession, as Sir William de Cheddleton was surviving in 1274.)

Among a similar list, recited for the benefit of Cumbermere Abbey, is one of April 4th, 1266, giving to that abbey the churches of Sandon and Alstonefield, of the grant of Hugh Malbanc and William his son (dead in 1186), with common of pasture in Alstonefield and pasture in the forest for their mares; . . . and Neuton and le Cotes, of the gift of Earl Robert de Ferrers and Williamhis son; and Doddecota in Feld, and the land and heath between Tiberton and Hul' and the meadow adjoining the water of Mees, of the gift of William FitzAlan, with common of the wood of (H)erkalwe and Bromhale and Spipford (?); and Cliva, of the gift of Ivo Pantulf and Brice his son; and le Trepwode, of the gift of Roger de Ythfeld; and the manor of Erlide (Yarlet) by Stafford, of the gift of Robert de Baskerville . . .

In the same way the abbey of Shrewsbury obtained, in 1332, an *inspeximus* which provides us with a series of deeds from the time of the Conqueror downwards. Amongst these is a royal charter of 1256, in which we find the king granting the abbot free warren "in all their demesne lands in their manor of the place of St. John the Baptist in the wood of Suthon, Co. Stafford (Sutton in Forton)," etc.

Besides an *inspeximus* for the nuns of St. Leonard's Brewood of their charters to lands in Co. Nottingham, there is also a charter of September 27th, 1189, issued at Brewood by William Longschamps, which is witnessed by many notables, among others by Hugh Pantulf and Thomas Noel. Other old deeds give us the name of Henry de Audley witnessing as one of the royal household at Westminster, in October, 1234, his name immediately following that of Hugh Despencer. Both Audley and Despencer were partners in the Malbanc manor of Alstone-

field and in Rushton. They were both constant in their attendance on Randle earl of Chester during his life—Hugh, Thomas, Henry, Robert, and Geoffrey Despencer sign his deeds repeatedly between 1207 and 1232. Hugh Despencer and Geoffrey Despencer (*d.* 1251, *Mat. Paris*), and Thurstan Despencer in Gloucestershire, were royal servants in the first half of the reign of Henry III.; Hugh was living in 1237 but dead in 1238, and succeeded by his son Hugh, then under age, Geoffrey being appointed his guardian. This is worth stating as the ancestry of the famous house of Despencer has been undecided. Their interest in Alstonefield would appear to be older than Audley's; they must have held the neighbouring or appurtenant manor of Waterfall as early as the reign of Henry I., since, in the Burton Abbey extent, dated by Mr. Round 1116–27, the monks are said to hold land in Waterfall of the gift of Ansketil Despencer and of his son Geoffrey.

In November, 1246, both Henry de Audley and his son James sign a royal charter at Worcester; and among the list of fees confirmed to the abbey of Peterboro in 1189 is one "*feodum quod* Vivianus de Stokes *tenuit*"—an early appearance of the name-giver to Fenton-Vivian. Bertram de Verdon signs this last-mentioned charter, of which the date is December 5th, 1189; he had evidently not then started on the Crusade in which he perished.

A very great improvement in the Index to this volume is the list of place-names under counties. Nearly all the names occurring have been identified. One that has not is "Calvedun." It occurs in a confirmation of Henry II. to the canons of Norton (Cheshire), of lands mostly in Cheshire. After dealing with the lands of the fee of Warin de Vernon and the bishop of Chester, the confirmation concludes—"*et de feodo Roberti de Stafforda* 1 *bovatam terre in Calveduna.*" Again, in a confirmation of about the same date to the abbey of St. Andrew's, Northampton, after many Northampton lands, occurs—"*et de elemosina Roberti de Staffordia terram de Chaveldona et decimam de omnibus rebus domus sue.*" Is it possible that in both these places Chorlton in Staffordshire is spoken of? It was written "Chaveldon" in Domesday, and was held of Robert de Stafford.

With reference to the Index one might also remark that the

sheriff of Chester, the first Twemlow, a frequent witness about the years 1200–20, was not called either Hulf, p. 209, or Lid', p. 155, but Liulf; and the name of his son Richard is likely to be lost under the indexed name of "Tuame."

The Preston Charter of 1176–88, which refers to the charter and privileges given to Newcastle-under-Lyme, is given in full in this volume. While another charter of 1336 gives the burgesses of Newcastle a yearly fair there on the Tuesday after the octave of Easter.

Many grants similar to this occur. In 1335 Ralph Basset the elder is granted a yearly fair at Faresleye (Fazeley); and in 1336 the men of Tamworth get two fairs annually, on St. George's Day and St. Edward's Day, each with the three following days. Thomas de Halghton gets a weekly market at High Offley, 1327; and Basset a weekly market at Fazeley, 1335. Grants of free warren are scattered broadcast, to John de Hothum, bishop of Ely, at Thorpe Constantine, 1327; to Thomas d'Oily at Ronton and Mulnemees, 1328; to Richard de Vernon at Harlaston, with two annual fairs, 1328; to Richard de Monemue at Rowley Regis, 1330; to Joan de Bottetourte at Handsworth and Bobbington, 1334; to William de Shareshull and Denise his wife at Patshull and Wilbrighton, 1334; to Simon de Ruggeley at Ruggeley, Longedon, Hondesacre and Kyngesbromley, with further grant that he may enclose 100 acres of land called "le Haukeserd" in Handsacre and make a park of it, 1337.

Roger de Swynnerton had a grant of view of frank-pledge at Swynnerton in 1329, with infangthef and outfangthef; and John de Arderne at Elford had a grant of view for which he paid 2*s.* a year to the sheriff, 1338. Robert, son and heir of the above Roger de Swynnerton, had an *inspeximus* and confirmation of three of his father's grants in May, 1338. A similar *inspeximus* dated July 14th, 1331, of a charter, dated May 6th, 1251, to William Tresell, confirms the manor of Perton to William de Perton; but who was Margaret wife of Richard de Morby who had Weeford for life in 1330, with remainder to John de Grey and his heirs?

Lastly we find, in 1328, John de Melbourn, dean of Wolverhampton, obtaining a confirmation of the ancient Hampton deeds quoted in the *Monasticon*. As it has been printed before,

this deed is not set out in the volume under review, but we may as well quote it here, as it raises some curious points :

> W. rex Anglorum, L. archiepiscopo & G. episcopo Cestrensi & P. episcopo & R. vicecomiti, coeterisque suis fidelibus de Estaffordscire salutem. Sciatis me dedisse Sampsoni capellano meo ecclesiam sanctae Mariae de Wlurenhamtona cum terre et omnibus aliis rebus & consuetudinibus sicut melius praedicta ecclesia habuit tempore regis Edwardi.

Lanfranc was consecrated archbishop in August, 1070. Peter, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, who moved the see to Chester, was installed in 1067 or 1073, and was dead in or before 1084 ; Robert de Limesy was bishop in 1086; who, therefore, was bishop G.? And R. the sheriff is not Turchil de Warwick, the sheriff of 1067–8, nor Nicholas, the sheriff of 1086. R. may stand for Robert de Stafford, or, possibly, for Rainald Bailgiol, who from about 1081 to the end of the century was sheriff of Salop.

CALENDAR OF PATENT ROLLS, EDW. III., 1358–61.

H.M. Stationery Office, 1911.

The Peace of Bretigny was signed in May, 1360, and till that date everybody was at the wars. So soon indeed as peace with France was arranged the bannerets and their following found work of a congenial kind available in Ireland. Both Ralph de Ferrers, still Captain of Calais in 1361, and Ralph earl of Stafford, went off to Ireland with their retinue in August of that year, and in the same year Richard de Stafford left for his seneschalcy in Gascony. Ralph Basset of Drayton, who during 1359 had been with the Black Prince in Gascony, found time during the lull to put in a visit to the Holy Land in November, 1360; he managed this in spite of the fact, or allegation, that Hugh de Wrottesley had been raiding his lands in his absence.

From the number of pardons enrolled at the termination of the war it would appear that most men, on committing murder, took sanctuary, and then abjured the kingdom, joining the army in France. These pardons are granted at the instance of the

banneret in whose following they served, and give in some sort a list of the leaders.

John de Legh, probably the M.P. for Newcastle in 1360—Thomas Spencer of Weston for the death of Gilbert Owen of Storton—Adam le Smyth of Weyford—Robert de Smethewyk for the death of John Blokeswych—Henry de Badyley for the death of Richard le Kene—Thomas le Carter of Uttokeshather for the death of John Nelot, cobbler, and many others—all received pardons, "being in the company of the earl of Stafford." Richard de Bloxwych of Dudley who had killed the man with the strange name of John Nutilson Hobkynson had followed the Duke of Lancaster—so had Richard de Roulegh, who slew John Lagowe of Newcastle-under-Lyme. Both were pardoned. Sir Thomas de Swynnerton led a company; so did Ralph Basset of Drayton; so did the king's yeoman, Thomas de Stafford, in whose company served Robert Russel, John de Thorpe, John Wakeleng who slew William de Leghes of Crakemarsh, Robert de Sutton, William de Stone, and many another pardoned for rape, robbery and murder. This Thomas de Stafford and William Walkelate were both, after the declaration of peace, pensioned off with 1*s.* a day as king's serjeants. They are to be found fighting side by side both in Ireland and on the Scottish marches.

John de Standon, for good service in Brittany, was pardoned the death of Thomas de Dutton and John Smallwood. I think it likely that he slew Dutton in Brittany, for he had also broken the arrest of Sir Otto de Holand, lieutenant keeper of Brittany. William son of John Bromley, of Co. Chester, had slain Thomas le Cook of Audley, but "his good service in France" seems to have been in connection with the wardrobe not the sword. William Nowel of the county of Stafford was pardoned for murder, and Richard Hardy of Clifton Camville had served with the Black Prince himself, and was therefore excused the death of Richard Symon of Clifton.

But the most notable of the captains was Sir James de Audley, K.G. With him had served John de Lauton, who had slain Roger de Snede of the county of Stafford. The story of Audley and his four squires is known to all. The confirmation of it is to be found in these rolls. On May 3rd, 1359, the Prince of Wales

grants to Audley £400 a year for life out of the Stannery of Cornwall, and out of 17 strange and lost castles in that same county. Something too, may be surmised as to the names of the squires. On October 1st, 1358, the Prince grants £44 a year for life to "his yeoman" John de Delves. The same squire is to be found with the Prince and in company of Sir Richard de Stafford, Sir James d'Audley and Sir Neel Loring (written Loherein) at Sandwich and in London in October and November, 1359. Another of the supposed squires was Fulleshurst of Crewe. In July, 1358, "for good service to the King and Queen Philippa," Robert de Fouleshurst has £10 a year out of the issues of Co. Salop; and in June, 1360, an enquiry is held by John de Delves and others as to a trespass of Richard, abbot of Cumbermere, against Fouleshurst at Chesthill, Salop—Fouleshurst being described as having been at the wars in the king's service and under the king's special protection. Of the other putative squires—of Hawkstone of Wrinehill there is nothing to be found, nor of Dutton, unless it be he who was slain by John de Standon in Brittany; but Mr. Swynnerton will be glad to see in a grant of 1358 some confirmation of his hypothesis that a Swynnerton was among the four. This grant, dated April 12th, 1358, gives £5 1*s.* 8*d.* a year for life to the king's yeoman, Hugh de Swynnerton, out of the fee farm rent paid by Roger Corbet for the manor of Bromley Regis *alias* Bromley Corbet.

Sir James d'Audley seems to have remained a while in England after the peace, for in September, 1360, he has entrusted to him the keeping of Gloucester Castle, "for good service to the King and to the Prince of Wales." There is no sign that James Lord Audley of Helegh was in France in these years—the distinctive appellation "of Helegh" is always attached to his name, and he appears frequently on the Bench and on Commissions in Somerset. This Lord of Helegh was apparently composing his old quarrels with his children by his first wife, for in 1358 he transferred to his eldest son, Sir Nicholas, his manor of Edgmond, Co. Salop. Roger, son of the Chief Justice, Sir Roger Hillary, had married Audley's daughter Margaret before January, 1358, when John de Sutton of Dudley conveyed to them the Hay of Ashwood in King's Swinford. It may be mentioned that Margaret, sister and heir of Edmund de Bereford and widow of the unplacable James

de Audley of Co. Leicester, occurs in a suit of February, 1361; and we may close the notice of this family by observing that the mention, in October, 1359, of the recent decease of Sir Peter d'Audley (brother of Sir James, K.G.), confirms the date of his death in France as given by Froissart.

Wars brought prisoners, and prisoners sometimes produced ransoms, but not always. Sir Thomas de Swynnerton, for instance, had four Scottish prisoners, taken probably many years before. He let them go from Eccleshall Castle, on parole, to collect their ransoms—and they never sent the money. Who, by the way, was Nicholas de Swynnerton, lately prebendary of Chester in 1361?

The three Staffords—the earl, his brother of Pipe and Thomas Stafford the king's serjeant—were evidently the warriors of the time of their race. Sir John de Stafford of Bramshall and Amblecot was old and failing, and a son of his, Thomas, was one of those who broke into the Duke of Lancaster's forest of Needwood in 1359 and chased the deer.

The earl had been in Ireland, but came to England early in 1358, for he then made Richard de Stafford, Nicholas de Lychfeld and Thomas de Croysdale his attorneys in Ireland for one year. He was back in Ireland by July, 1359, in England the next year, and then again sailed for Ireland in August, 1361, in charge of the young prince Lionel. His brother, Sir Richard of Pipe, must, in May, 1358, have been residing in England, for he was one of the commissioners to enquire into the complaint of Thomas le Taverner of Lichfield that ruffians had taken his servant to Donnisthorpe, Co. Derby, and there broken his arms and legs. In September the Prince of Wales made him, while at Chester, doubtless for some service similar to that of Audley's at Poictiers, a grant of 200*m.* a year for life. Sir Richard was back fighting in France early in 1359, and was one of those who signed the Treaty of Bretigny. In November, 1360, he is to be found in the Prince's retinue in London, and he probably returned with him to Gascony in 1361.

Another Richard de Stafford, chaplain, was at the request of the earl, made a prebendary of Lichfield in 1360; while Henry de Stafford, also unknown, who had just previously been endowed with a life corrody at Trentham Priory, received in November,

1360, the keepership of the gaol of Stafford "for his long services."

Other royal servants appear—such as Reynold de Ferrers, "lieutenant of the king's admiral of the West," 1360. He was a king's serjeant-at-arms. Richard de Hampton was a king's yeoman, and constable in 1359 of the castle of Eccleshall, rider of the forest of Cannock, and bailiff of the bishop's liberty until the temporalities were delivered over to the new bishop, Robert de Stretton, in September, 1360. Another royal servant was the Justice Hugh de Aston (of Aston in Coleshill). It is regrettable to note that the matrimonial infelicities of this judge induced his servants, at his orders, to "take Ralph de Pipe by force and cut off his privy parts because he had lain with the wife of the said Hugh." They were duly pardoned in January, 1359. The escheator and king's yeoman, John atte Wood, farmer of Kinver, was more happy in his wife, Lucy de Gaynesborough. She was in touch with the king's laundress (often a very questionable profession), and through her, as it would appear, acquired the manor of Albrighton, Co. Salop; and, possibly on his own merits, the constableship of Bishop's Castle in the same county. Sir John de la Lee, who concluded his career in the Tower in 1368 (Vol. 1911, p. 464), comes before us throughout these years as steward of Queen Isabel and, after her death, as universal servant of the crown.

It was to the royal servants that the king turned for the active business of war; it was the barons and the county gentry who provided the financial sinews of war and sat on the various commissions which collected it. Parliament granted subsidy after subsidy on cloth and wool, tenths and fifteenths—bringing in always beautifully less and less from a country drained of men and ravaged by pestilence. The arrayers were ordered in the king's absence, "*qe toutes gentz darmes et archers demeurantz en checun countee Dengleterre soient arraiez, cestassavoir chescun selonc son estat*"; and this same year, 1360, saw the county gentry established with their great magisterial power of arrest, on the return of the dangerous marauding army from France.

One entry referring to the Parliament seems to be of special interest. On February 10th, 1360, when ordering the arrayers to array, the king also commissioned the bishop of

Worcester, the abbot of Evesham, Richard, earl of Arundel, and Sir William de Shareshull of Shareshill (evidently representing each of the four estates), "as it is expedient to deliberate with the assent and council of the commonalty," because the whole commonalty (*i.e.*, Parliament) cannot be assembled in one place in a short time, he therefore wills that there be a colloquy and treaty held with the commonalties of the counties of Gloucester, Hereford, Salop, Staffs., Worcester and Warwick at Worcester. In the same way three other centres were chosen for this snatch, decentralized parliament, each with different royal commissioners representing the different estates.

Ecclesiastical matters centre round the election of Robert de Stretton to the bishopric of Lichfield. In March, 1358, the crown was impugning the claim, based on a Roman title, of one Robert de Stretton to the church of Stretham in the diocese of Ely. By the month of November, however, this claim was evidently compromised; Stretton had lost his church and secured the prebend of Little Pipe; he was also rector of Llanbedarn and prebendary of Gnossal. On January 21st, 1359, the royal assent was given to his election as bishop, yet the temporalities were not delivered over to him till September 19th, 1360. It is said that the Papal Curia objected to his illiteracy.

Meanwhile the temporalities were in the hands of the Crown. and these rolls naturally contain many references thereto. Hugh de Hopwas, canon of Lichfield and parson of Clifton Camville, was keeper of the temporalities. Robert Bertelot, chaplain, was presented in 1359 to the vicarage of the church of Tutbury; William de Ideshale was, in 1358, parson of Arley on Severn; John Beke was parson of Checkley in the same year, and John de Bisshopestone, king's clerk, was appointed dean of the king's free chapel of Stafford. Further, on May 2nd, 1361, a commission, consisting of Richard de Stafford, Henry Motelowe, Roger de Aston (of Heywood), and John Bluet, were to enquire into the poaching and hunting that had gone on at Lichfield, Heywood, Eccleshall, Brewood, Cank, Blore and Preez during the interregnum.

One Thomas de Keymes was presented twice over in 1359 to the prebend of Wiggington in the church of Tamworth; once, on the ground that it was in the king's gift by reason of the

wardship of the lands and heir of Ralph le Botiler who held in chief, and the second time because the dead tenant in chief was Philip Marmiun, regardless of the fact that Botiler held Norbury and Tamworth in right of descent from Marmiun.

We have also mention of Ralph de Sutton, vicar of Harbourne, and of a church at Cheddleton, both in 1359. And a suit with the abbot of Westminster about the seigneury of Perton shows, in the compromise arrived at, that John de Perton had, in 1360, recently succeeded his father William de Perton.

CALENDAR OF PATENT ROLLS, EDWARD III., 1361–4.

H.M. Stationery Office, 1912.

The Irish wars still continued. The king's son, Lionel earl of Ulster, was in nominal command, under the tutelage of Ralph earl of Stafford. Humphrey de Stafford, John and William de Peyto, Thomas de Sutton, Richard de Stafford, clerk, and Sir Robert de Grendon, went to join him in August, 1361, but the two earls had probably crossed earlier, for on July 3rd the wages were arranged for the mariners of the ships ordained for the passage of the earls to Ireland. Ralph de Ferrers, late captain of Calais, went with them; he had just received an annuity of 100*m.* "for his useful service, not avoiding bodily peril." Sir Robert de Grendon had nominated as his attorneys in England, Adam le Arblaster and Simon de Lichfield; and Richard de Stafford, king's clerk and prebendary of Wolveley in the church of Lichfield, nominated as his the same Simon and Thomas le Taverner of Lichfield "the younger." Thomas de Stafford, king's serjeant-at-arms, was also on this expedition, and was made Marshal of Ireland, February 21st, 1364. He had been backwards and forwards between the two kingdoms during the interval, arresting ships for the passage of troops and doing many services for the king. Another Stafford—Henry—gets an annuity of 100*m.* in 1362. They were at the height of their power.

About the same time that Earl Ralph sailed for Ireland, his brother, Richard de Stafford of Pipe, sailed for his seneschalcy

in Gascony, accompanied by his son, Sir Richard, and by Sir Richard de Vernon. The latter appointed Nicholas St. Pierre, vicar of Leek, Hugh de Yoxhale and John Alrewas as his attorneys in England. He was about to set out on pilgrimage in February, 1364, appointing as his attorneys Henry de Tymmour and John de Alrewas. His neighbour, Sir Richard de Stafford of Pipe, probably remained in France; for in April, 1362, a commission is appointed to enquire into the trespasses committed against his manor of Pipe by a numerous horde of tradesmen from Lichfield; perhaps they wanted to be paid for goods—"cardemakers," "sporiers" and "taillours" appear in the number. Sir Richard was back in England by June, 1364, for he was then put on to a commission with John of Gaunt.

Another warrior from France, Sir James de Audley, K.G., was Constable of Gloucester Castle in May, 1362. His namesake, James de Audley of Heleigh, was engaged in his interminable disputes with his eldest son Nicholas—trying and failing to disentail him of the castle and lordship of Newport in Camoys, 1363–4. Sir Richard de Dudley, "lord of Duddele," went beyond the seas in April, 1362; and in December, 1361, Sir Ralph Basset of Drayton, accompanied by Nicholas de Aston, parson of Stone, was again contemplating that visit to the Holy Land which he had postponed from the previous year. Sir William Trussel of Kibblestone, another famous warrior, was keeper of Odiham Castle in Hampshire in 1362, and obtained further royal grants in 1361 "for his good service from his youth and his manifold labours."

Among the smaller men who made these wars and were "of the household" either of the king or of Lancaster or of Stafford, are to be mentioned Sir John de Delves, of Poictiers fame, Sir Nicholas de Bek, and Sir Godfrey Foljambe. The first named was a justice of Staffs. and Salop, and became, in February, 1364, a justice of the Common Bench. He had had also the "sustenance of the duchess of Brittany and her household," February, 1363. Bek complained that, "whereas the king had taken him and his brother John into his special protection" while they were on his service in Ireland, various persons—Henry Puys of Rugeley, and William de Swynnerton of Stafford among the number—had broken their houses and chests at

Stafford. William Butyler of Wemme, Richard de Stafford, John de Delves, John Knyvet, Henry de la Pole, and John de Knyghtle are commissioned to enquire thereinto. Sir Godfrey Foljambe was the man of the Duke of Lancaster, and had at farm a lease from him for life of the manor of Newcastle, May 14th, 1362.

The riotous Henry de Puys of Rugeley did not confine his attentions to the house and chests of Sir Nicholas de Bek; in October, 1362, he, with Philip de Luttley the escheator, Henry de Tinmore, clerk, Richard son of Robert de Hondsacre and others were indicted for that they had broken into the parks of the bishop during the interregnum before the consecration of Bishop Robert of Stretton. But all this was peaceably settled, for, in June, 1363, the dean and chapter granted in tail, to him and his wife Juliana their messuage in Rugeley with all the houses thereon. Philip de Lutley, escheator 1362–8, alienated to the church, in November, 1362, possibly in consequence of the above, 100*s.* of rent in Envill "to pray for the soul of himself and Anne his wife and the souls of the father and mother of Philip when they are departed this life."

For all such alienations by tenants in chief licence had to be obtained; and these licences form a common entry on these Rolls. John Bond of Wednesbury paid 13*s.* 4*d.*, for licence to acquire in fee from John de Heronville 2 messuages and a carucate of land in Wednesbury, 1362; and again, Richard de Colleclogh (not Colleslegh as in text) acquired on licence from William Gent of Newcastle 40 acres of land in Wolstanton, paying 6*s.* 8*d.* for the licence, 1362. As regards this family of Gent, we learn that the king's clerk, Richard Gent of Newcastle, was, in 1364, discharged from the wardenship of the hospital of St. Leonard's in Derby.

Other entries on the Patent Rolls are pardons for alienations without licence. John de Beverle had acquired from John Blount, son and heir of Hugh Blount of Co. Essex, the manor of Pencrich, Co. Stafford, held in chief. He is pardoned of special grace and allowed to retain it, April 27th, 1364. There are also many grants of marriages and wardships. The king's yeoman, John Beauchamp of Holte, has the marriage of Elizabeth, d. and h. of John Beysyn, who held the king in chief,

February 8th, 1363. The king's yeoman, John atte Wode, has a grant for life of bailiwicks in Co. Gloucester in succession to John Musard, the sheriff, deceased October 18th, 1361. He was the keeper of Kinver Forest, and had married a protegee of the king's.

Sir William de Shareshull, lately C.J. of the King's Bench, is still prominent. He is still a commissioner everywhere. On one occasion he is to correct the *Inq. p.m.* on John de Bromley of Ashley, who had died on the Monday after the Assumption in 22 Edw. III. (1348), leaving Alice his d. and h., aged 6 months. (In Canon Bridgeman's *Blymhill* this date appears as May 17th, 1349.) The king understands that he holds other lands—in Blymenhull, in le Brokhurst, 4*m.* in Podemore, 20*s.* in Le Gorsthull, 12*s.* in Rugge and 4*s.* in Chatculne, not contained in the *Inquisition.* That he is described as William de Shareshull *the elder* in 1363 shows that his son was then at least of age. Elizabeth, his daughter, had married John, s. and h. of William de Perton, and the same William de Perton had settled Perton on them without a licence, for which John had to pay 5*m.*, November 4th, 1362. Later on, in April, 1364, Sir John de Perton had to pay ½*m.* for licence "to enclose a way leading from Patyncham beneath his court to Tetenhale, for the enlargement of such court; provided that he makes on his own soil a like way as convenient for those passing by." This sounds most up-to-date, and indicates a very strong central authority able to enforce rights of way as well as any modern District Council.

Another Commission of Sir William Shareshull's was to enquire and determine, March 22nd, 1362, into the crimes of a long list of folk who had imprisoned many of the king's lieges in the county of Stafford, and detained them in prison till they had made fine for their deliverance. The first on this list is the ex-justice of the Common Pleas, Sir Roger Hillary; Robert Grubbere, no doubt of Walsall, and William Shareshull of Walsall, possibly the son of the enquiring Commissioner, are others—bailiffs I should suppose, using the powers of the law extra-legally.

Elsewhere we come across mention of the working of alabaster at Tutbury; the inquest on a strange murder at Pillatenhale;

and a reference apparently to the famous revolutionary John Ball the preacher, in 1364. This volume well maintains the interest of its predecessors.

CALENDAR OF PATENT ROLLS, EDWARD III., 1364–7.

H.M. Stationery Office, 1912.

Two Commissions of Array are posted in the volume covering these years, and supply us with the names of those who led county affairs. In October, 1366, the commission in Staffs. consisted of:—James de Pipe, Nicholas de Beek, John de Swynnerton of Hilton, and the sheriff—all men of the Earl of Stafford's following. In February, 1367, the names were:—The earl of Stafford, James lord Audley, Richard lord Stafford of Pipe, James de Pipe, Robert de Grendon and the sheriff.

The earl seems to have left Ireland for good in the summer of 1366 when he made Thomas Astley his attorney in Ireland for two years. Richard lord Stafford of Pipe, father and son, were both on a commission in England in February, 1366; and the same Richard, the father, was made keeper of the abbey of Stoneley, Warw., which was "threatened with ruin" owing to "misrule and corrodies," October 26th, 1364. But the abbot and monks, who had been removed, threatened the new ones that had been introduced, and in spite of the king's protection there was the usual trouble and breaking in.

The hold of the church upon the people had not yet diminished, as by the Lollard agitation in the years to come. The "pious founder" was as busy as ever alienating land in mortmain, and benefit of clergy was still preserving in liberty every dangerous character who could read. Nicholas de Stafford of Throwley gives us a good example of the pious founder. In 1365 the lord of Tiddeswell and certain trustees alienated 200 acres to the chantry of Tiddeswell, but they all died of the plague before the licence to alienate was acted on; eighteen years later Sir Nicholas, who held Throwley and Tiddeswell, Derby, in right of his wife, completed the alienation which had lapsed. As to the effects of "benefit of clergy" the following

story speaks for itself. Walter and Ralph Marsh and William Serle were convicted of felonies before William de Shareshull; they claimed privilege, and were handed over to the keeping of the bishop. They escaped from Eccleshall Castle; Walter was killed, and Serle and the other Marsh gathered other felons and evildoers and roamed about the county, plotting to kill the justices who convicted them. Nicholas de Beek was specially commissioned to arrest them, January, 1365, but whether he ever caught them remains a mystery.

Sir William de Shareshull, presumably the ex-chief justice, appears on many commissions. In 1365, with John de Swynnerton and Robert Burgiloun, he was to "hear and determine" respecting the killing of William Wolrich at Wednesbury. It appears that Sir Roger Hillary had a hand in it, for he was pardoned three months later; still later Robert de Darlaston was pardoned for the killing as the king is informed that they were fighting at Wednesbury. In the same year, near by, Lora, widow of Walter de Penne, had been at Nether Penne breaking in the chamber of Warin de Penne. She too was pardoned.

Some similar sort of riot is probably indicated by the protection for one year granted to Richard, Thomas, Ralph and William de Podmore, Richard de Roulee (Rowley), Hugh le Buwer, John del Knol, Alan and Thomas Somerford, John de Keel, Henry de Betteleye and John Lyghtwode, in November, 1365. They were Newcastle people, and Richard de Podmore was then M.P. for the borough; and this is the earliest mention of the ancestor of the Bowyers of Knypersley. Is the William Scissill of Howden in Yorkshire, 1366, the earliest ancestor of a still more famous family? The appointment to the office of the passage of wool in the port of Boston of William de Harcourt gives us in like manner a new cadet of a family more ancient still.

I fear the marriage of John atte Wood, the bailiff of Kinver, to Lucy de Gainsborough deserves the suspicions cast upon it in a previous review. She is spoken of formerly, both as the origin of John's wealth and as the king's laundress. In this volume the laundress appears as "one of the damsels of the chamber of Queen Philippa," with a pension of 20*m.* a year for life out

of the issues of Co. Stafford. Alice Perrers doubtless had her rivals.

The backs of the Patent Rolls contain endless commissions appointed to enquire, hear and determine. Some were appointed *proprio motu*, and some on complaint made, for which the complainant had to pay. Thus, in 1367, Henry de Morwode, parson of Handsworth, paid 1*m.* for a commission, consisting of—Sir Richard de Stafford, Sir John de Delves, Sir Robert de Grendon, Sir Nicholas de Beek and three royal justices, to get justice out of Roger, Richard and Henry de Wirlegh, Robert Burgyloun and others who had raided his close, driven off or slaughtered his cattle, and indicted him of felonies. The commission was important and seems cheap at the price. But Ralph earl of Stafford got for nothing a commission of even higher quality to enquire into the outrages of a mob of named persons committed on the bodies of William de Peyto and William le Barbour his servants. They imprisoned and illtreated William de Peyto until, for fear of their threats, to behead him, he pledged his faith not to stay longer with the earl—probably he was collecting rents, 1367.

As an example of a roving commission one may give the following of October, 1365—Earl Ralph, William de Shareshull, Sir James de Pipe, Sir Nicholas de Beek and Thomas Gegge of Newport, to hear and determine all treasons and felonies and everything else within the county of Stafford.

Pardons and licences for alienations or settlements fill the front of the rolls. The pardons give us the first mention of a Wilkes of Darlaston. On July 1st, 1367, Richard Belle was pardoned for his trespass against John Wilkes. More farsighted John de Beverley, king's yeoman, got a licence to settle his manor of Penkridge, held in chief, on feofees for uses, 1366. And in the same year the same John and William Coleson had a licence to alienate land to the church of Walsall. In February, 1365, we find the same John de Beverley, with William de Walsall (Coleson's nephew), Philip de Lutley and Thomas de Newenham acting as mainpernors in London for the abbot of Evesham. This is the first record we have of the future Marshal of the Hall, M.P., escheator and sheriff, William de Walsall.

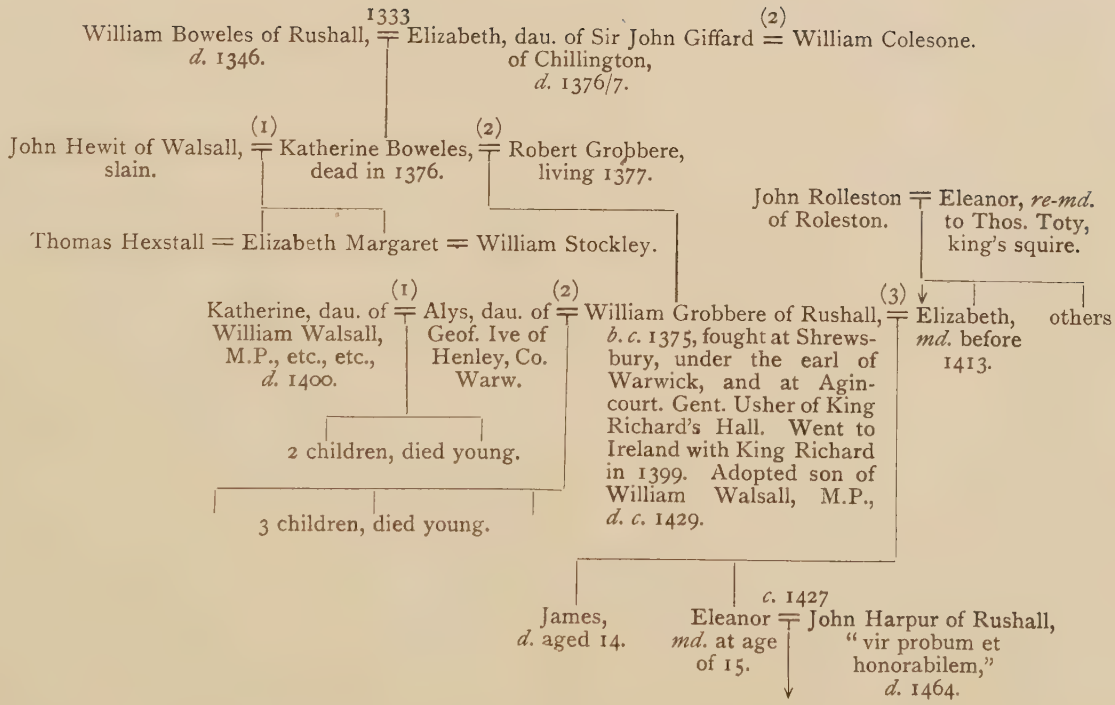
There is more about these Colesons and Walsalls in these

rolls. In 1364, John son of William Coleson, acquired in fee from Roger Hillary and William Coleson, two messuages in Bentley and Walsall, held in chief. But it is in Shaw's *Staffordshire* that we get a curious and original account of this bourgeois family. He quotes an ancient MS. book, which must have been written about the year 1440, dealing with the descent of the manor of Rushall from the family of Bowles of Rushall to that of Harpur. The account is written in English of that date, and the part that follows tells us something of the Marshal of the Hall:—"And so William Colesone hadde the warde of the maner of Rushale, & also the mariage of the sayd William Grobbere, the whyche bothe warde & mariage the seyd William Colesone solde to William Walshale squier, that was nevewe to the seyd William Colesone; & the seyd William Walshale was a thrifty squyer & on of the marchallis of kynge Richard's halle, of grete power by the kynges autoritee. And the seyd William Walshale mariede the sayd William Grobbere to his doghter Katherine. And bycause the seyde William Grobbere was lord of Rushale, the seyed William Walshale uside to calle him William of Rushale, & so al the cuntre uside to calle him, & callide him William of Russhale al his lyfe. And the seyd William Walshale dwellide at Rushale from the 3° to the 19° of kynge Richard . . . ." (Shaw, *Staffs.*, II, 63.)

This unique account goes on to follow the family on to the Harpur marriage, and shows a pedigree given in detail on p. 334.

Two other instances of the genealogical information to be gleaned from these "pardons for alienation" may be quoted. John de Heronvill had a pardon for settling Wednesbury on himself and his wife Alice in tail, 1365. In November, 1367, Philip de Lutley has endowed the chapel of St. Michael at Lutley, and gives the names of his wife Maud, then living, and of his former wife Anne.

Among the ecclesiastical information given in the rolls is a licence to elect a new abbot of "Roucestre in Douvedale" in the place of William deceased, November, 1364. A grant to Robert More of the deanery of the king's free chapel of Stafford, 1366. An exchange of benefices between Simon Knyght, parson of Chedele, and Edward Sothword, parson of Outwell in the diocese


William Boweles of Rushall, d. 1346.
1333
Elizabeth, dau. of Sir John Giffard of Chillington, d. 1376/7.
(2)
William Colesone.
John Hewit of Walsall, slain.
(1)
Katherine Boweles, dead in 1376.
(2)
Robert Grobbere, living 1377.
John Rolleston of Roleston.
Eleanor, re-md. to Thos. Toty, king's squire.
Thomas Hexstall
Elizabeth Margaret
William Stockley.
(1)
Katherine, dau. of William Walsall, M.P., etc., etc., d. 1400.
(2)
Alys, dau. of Geof. Ive of Henley, Co. Warw.
William Grobbere of Rushall, b. c. 1375, fought at Shrewsbury, under the earl of Warwick, and at Agincourt. Gent. Usher of King Richard's Hall. Went to Ireland with King Richard in 1399. Adopted son of William Walsall, M.P., d. c. 1429.
(3)
Elizabeth, md. before 1413.
others
2 children, died young.
3 children, died young.
James, d. aged 14.
c. 1427
Eleanor md. at age of 15.
John Harpur of Rushall, "vir probum et honorabilem," d. 1464.

of Norwich. A dispute about tithes between Richard Coupere, parson of Audley, and Hugh de Malpas, parson of Barthomley, respecting the great and small tithes of the fields of Balterley, 1366/7.

CALENDAR OF CLOSE ROLLS, EDWARD III., 1369–74.

H.M. Stationery Office, 1911.

This volume of the Close Rolls bears evidence of the damage to England that followed the reopening of the war with France, damage caused, not by disaster in the field, but by the passing into the hands of the enemy of the control of the sea, and shewn by the perpetual drain of money required by the companies abroad. The Writ Close of November 10th, 1370, to the Duke of Lancaster, the earl of Stafford, the two Audleys, Robert de Ferrers and others, "to leave all else, cease every excuse" and rally to the defence of Wales against a projected, or imagined, French invasion, betrays a panic and a condition of nerves which strikes one as almost modern. An agitated order to the Admiral Sir Ralph Ferrers and others prohibiting the sale of ships by merchants, issued in December, 1371, shows the same spirit.

With John of Gaunt's French expedition of 1369 went, we find, Sir Richard de Vernon of Harlaston, Sir Thomas de Arderne, Sir Nicholas de Stafford of Throwley, Richard de Ruggeley and Thomas Cloune; for William de Ferrers and his fellow justices in Leicestershire are directed to hold over a writ against them "for that they have sailed to Acquitaine in the company of John de Hastinges, earl of Pembroke." Sir Ralph Basset of Sapecote, sailing in August, 1372, made the most elaborate preparations, both for the safety of his soul, if slain, and for the disposition of his estates for the suitable maintenance of his wife Alice "by reason of her infirmity," and of his daughters Alice and Elizabeth. Alice, daughter of John Derby, was his second wife, and had just given birth to Elizabeth, who at the time of this provision was only 9 days old. He did not die till 1378.

Such knights could not go properly equipped to France

without much money. The borrowing of money was necessary and writs of recognizance, enrolled at the Exchequer, are in consequent numerous throughout these years. Sir Rees ap Griffuth of Alrewas pledges his lands in Staffordshire for 700 marcs to Sir Arnold Savage; Sir Peter de Caverswall of Caverswall and High Ercall pledges his lands for £1,000 to Sir Baldwin de Frevill in 1370; as for Sir John de Delves, he borrows in three sums, on March 1st, 1369, no less than £2,550, all of which he repaid, on the security of his lands in Staffordshire, among which are to be found Crakemarsh, which had been Sir Walter de Verdon's, and also Braundon and Wolston in Co. Warwick. I think he died the same year, and that his widow was Elizabeth; for, on March 4th, 1371, John de Baskerville proved his age and had seisin of the lands of his mother and father, being son and heir of Walter Baskerville "and of Elizabeth late his wife who was the wife of John de Delves."

It was not only for war equipment that money was borrowed; it was also required for the purchase of heiresses. Margaret, widow of Sir John de Stafford of Bramshall, and Sir Richard de Stafford of Pipe, her uncle, acknowledged a debt of 500 marcs to Alexander de Besford for the purchase of Maud, one of the coheiresses of Sir John Hastang of Chebsey and Grafton, in order to marry her to Sir John Stafford's younger son Ralph,—who thereby became ancestor of the Staffords of Grafton. This was on August 22nd, 1373, and appears to have represented a profit of 400 per cent. to Alexander, cleared in two days. Joan, the other coheiress, had been sold by the crown to John de Salesbury, the king's squire. He acknowledges "that the said Joan's body is delivered to him," exactly as though it was a parcel of sugar. Yet, in a way, Joan made him a good wife and in the manner of that time, took a hand in avenging him after he had been executed by the Lords Appellant in 1388.

There seems to have been a dispute as to whether these heiresses really belonged to the king or to the old earl of Stafford; possibly their price was lower in consequence. The earl was now 70, and his chief steward is a man of importance. This was Sir John de Peyto, knight of the shire for Co. Warwick. But the largest debt of all was a recognizance for 5,000 marcs from John de Nevill of Raby to Ralph earl of Stafford, and his son

Hugh, passed in 1372. It is unfortunate that, through some error in the indexing, both Hugh and Richard de Stafford, though often occurring in the text, are omitted from the otherwise excellent index.

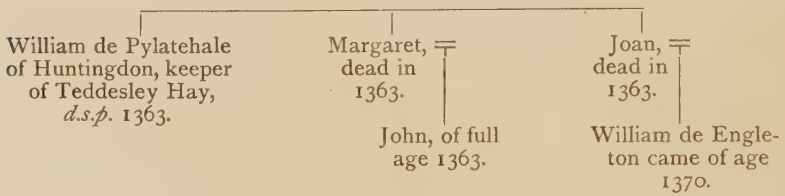
Another baronial house, that of Audley, is mentioned in curious fashion. In April, 1371, Sir Nicholas, eldest son of Sir James de Audley of Heley, is discharged from the commission of the peace for Herefordshire, as the King purposes him "to execute other and higher duties"; but on September 28th, William Podmore of Co. Staffs. and others are mainpernors for the same Nicholas for £400, that the said be not outlawed for trespass in Co. Gloucester. Later on, however, Nicholas came before the court and contended the king on the matter.

A sign of the war, and of the financial needs of the king, is to be found in the number of Parliaments held, of which these rolls give us the duration and the names of the various members. It should be noted that the Parliament of June, 1371, was in reality a resummoning of part of the Parliament, which had voted £50,000 from the parishes of England, at a rate of 22/3 from each parish. There turned out, curiously enough, to be too few parishes in existence to make up the amount, and half the members were told to come back to Westminster after they had made an inquisition into "the number of parish churches, chapels and prebends in the county." It was considered "burdensome" to resummon them at all. In the 1372 Parliament Staffordshire was represented by William de Halghton and by John de Gresley the sheriff, but the writ ordering payment of the usual 4*s.* a day directs the sheriff to pay Halghton only. It would almost appear that the sheriff was expected to attend gratis. This Parliament of 1372 sat for 21 days, and that of 1373 for 19 days, apparently; and the writs ordering payment were generally issued on the day that Parliament rose,—November 24th, 1372—December 10th, 1373. They were paid for Sundays as well as week-days and for the days spent in travelling; and handsome pay it was for those times.

Besides the business of Member of Parliament another elective post was that of coroner. Writs occur, directed to the sheriff, ordering coroners to be elected to replace Thomas de Pipe, "who has no lands in the county," January 12th, 1369; to replace Philip de Bobynton, who is insufficiently qualified,

January 27th, 1370, and July 8th, 1370; to replace Richard Leveson, who is too infirm and aged, November 20th, 1371; and again to replace Thomas de Pipe, for the same reason as before. October 12th, 1372. It looks as though the coroners preferred to stick to their jobs, and managed somehow to resist replacement. There were at least four for the county at all times.

The Writs Close to the escheators bidding them give seisin sometimes provide us with useful genealogical material; as for instance one to William Banaster of Yorton, dated May 6th, 1370, from which one can draw out the following pedigree :—



A similar writ informs us that William, son and heir of John de Benteleye, did homage to the king for his lands in 1370.

Among ecclesiastical matters we find that Ronton Priory was, in 1371–2, in the hands of John de Gresley the sheriff and of William de Halghton; that John, prior of Sandwell, did, in 1371, give to Ralph Bassett of Drayton a recognisance for £300; and that Burton Abbey was charged with two royal corrodies in 1373—a simple inexpensive form of Old Age Pension.

There are a few mistakes in the Index of this volume, which should be noted by the compilers. Isabel, wife of Henry de Ferrers, does *not* occur on p. 451; an entry under Newcastle-under-Lyme, given as p. 417 should read 477; and, besides those of the Stafford family omitted from the Index, Ralph, son of Sir John de Stafford, does *not* appear as indexed on p. 441.

CALENDAR OF CLOSE ROLLS, EDWARD III., 1374–7. H.M. Stationery Office, 1913.

Here, at the sordid end of a long reign, we meet with the "Good Parliament"; the first Parliament that had a visible mind of its own, and wanted to make trouble for those in power. It

did not, of course, succeed; these revolts rarely do. The members were paid off on July 10th, 1376, and as the Middlesex representatives were paid for 74 days, we may assume that the "good" was also the "long" Parliament. It took only a very short time, after the dissolution, for Alice Perrers and the "bad" ministers to come back; and by November we find the intrepid Speaker, Peter de la Mare of Herefordshire, safely lodged in Nottingham Gaol. Sir John de Verdon and John de Knightley were the "knights" from Staffordshire; Hugh and Nicholas Snell from Stafford; Sir Thomas Harcourt of Ellenhall and Stanton Harcourt sat for Oxfordshire; Robert de Stafford for Co. Warwick.

John of Gaunt put down his foot before the next Parliament was summoned in January, 1377. There was almost a clean sweep of the old members. Leicester and Dorset alone returned their two old representatives; Hereford and Hertford still stuck to one. Robert de Stafford again sat as a senior member for Co. Warwick; but that was all. As for the boroughs, they changed not merely the members but the places themselves. Only seven boroughs that had sent members to the Good Parliament sent any at all to John of Gaunt's. We may suppose that Sir Nicholas de Stafford of Throwley and Sir Adam de Peshale of Horseley, the Staffordshire knights, were good Lancastrians, though I see no obvious reason why they should have been beholden to the Duchy.

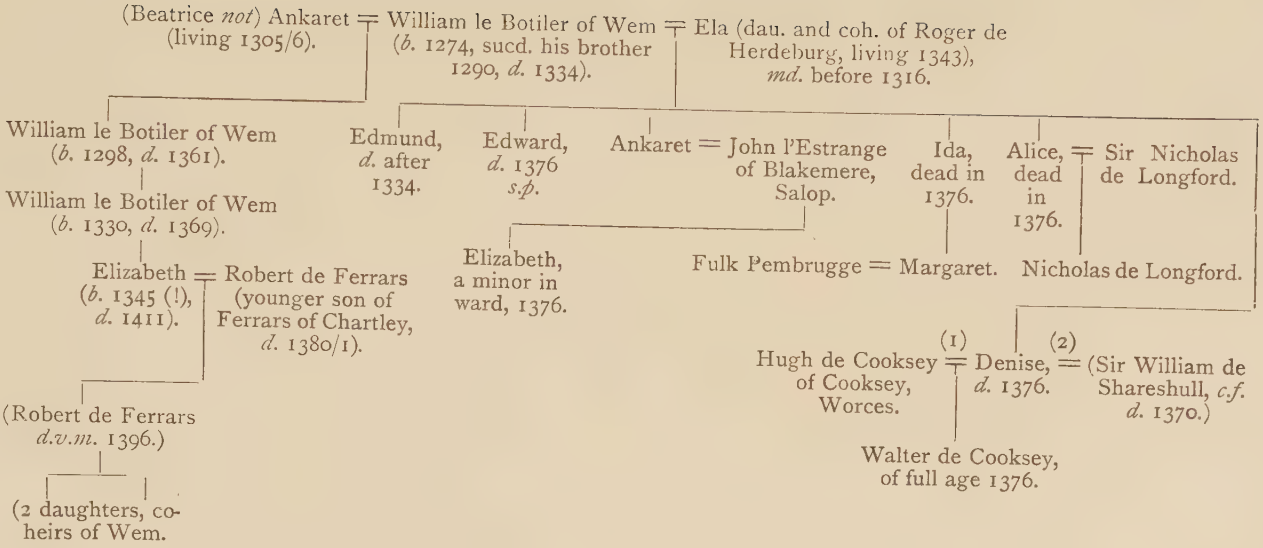
The mysterious Sir Robert de Stafford, M.P. for Warwickshire, comes in frequently in these Rolls, and it is probably he who heads quite a long list of witnesses to a deed signed at Stafford on Friday after midsummer, 1376—Robert de Stafford, William de Chetwynd, Richard de Peshale, Robert de Swynnerton, Peter de Creswell, knights, John de Knightley, William de Wasteneys. But Parliament was then sitting, and as both Stafford and Knightley were members of that Parliament, and were paid for being at Westminster, it looks a little doubtful whether the Treasury was then as careful as later experience of human nature has made it. Perhaps the reason why Robert Stafford was elected member of both Parliaments was that he never attended the first, and so escaped John of Gaunt's ban.

From a Roll of January 16th, 1377, we learn something of the way in which pay was raised for the knights and burgesses

of Parliament. The sheriff of Bedford is ordered "as lawful and reasonable is" to compel Fulk de Pemebrugge and Giles Daubeney, lords of the royal manor of Kempstone, and their tenants, free men and neifs, to contribute towards the expenses of the knights coming for the commons of Bedfordshire to the last Parliament, though they pretend that they and their tenants ought to be quit. And the king takes note that all lords of manors, "not being barons nor coming to Parliament at the king's command," and all their tenants ought to contribute. It is possible that Kempstone had been held for life by someone who was such a summoned baron, and that the new lords tried to secure the previous exemption as a permanent franchise.

The perennial dread of invasion was then very lively and probably assisted John of Gaunt in overawing Parliament. On March 15th, 1377, writs of summons are issued to the Duke, to Hugh earl of Stafford, Robert de Ferrars, James and Nicholas de Audley and many others, to "leave all else and ceasing every excuse" rally to save the principality of Wales, for that the king had learned that his enemies of France were "endeavouring with all their might to destroy the realm" and "are purposing to make a landing within the principality." The quarrels between Sir James de Audley of Heley and Sir Nicholas de Audley of Newport in Camoys still continued, and Sir Nicholas seems to have got into trouble with the crown too, being bound in £5,000 and outlawed, and only spared that he might furnish his "castle against attacks of the enemy if any shall invade those parts."

Robert de Ferrars, mentioned in the above summons, was lord of Wem in right of his wife, the heiress of the Botilers of Wem. He died in 1380/1. On February 28th, 1377, Ralph de Ferrars, Robert de Ferrars, Nicholas de Stafford, knights, Adam Peshale, William de Chetwynd of Calvington and Henry Puys of Ruggeley, executed a joint recognizance for £1,000 in favour of John de Beverley of Penkridge, the king's squire and bailiff and constable of Leeds Castle. And a further writ of November 6th, 1376, directed to William Walshale the escheator, gives us the following extensive pedigree (p. 341):—


(Beatrice *not*) Ankaret (living 1305/6).
William le Botiler of Wem (*b.* 1274, sucd. his brother 1290, *d.* 1334).
Ela (dau. and coh. of Roger de Herdeburg, living 1343), *md.* before 1316.
William le Botiler of Wem (*b.* 1298, *d.* 1361).
William le Botiler of Wem (*b.* 1330, *d.* 1369).
Elizabeth (*b.* 1345 (!), *d.* 1411).
Robert de Ferrars (younger son of Ferrars of Chartley, *d.* 1380/1).
(Robert de Ferrars *d.v.m.* 1396.)
(2 daughters, co-heirs of Wem.
Edmund, *d.* after 1334.
Edward, *d.* 1376 *s.p.*
Ankaret
John l'Estrange of Blakemere, Salop.
Ida, dead in 1376.
Alice, dead in 1376.
Sir Nicholas de Longford.
Elizabeth, a minor in ward, 1376.
Fulk Pembrugge
Margaret.
Nicholas de Longford.
(1)
(2)
Hugh de Cooksey of Cooksey, Worces.
Denise, *d.* 1376.
(Sir William de Shareshull, *c.f.* *d.* 1370.)
Walter de Cooksey, of full age 1376.

The contemporary Robert de Ferrars of Chartley was a minor, for, on December 7th, 1376, the lands late of John de Ferrers were in the custody of Hugh earl of Stafford and Ralph Basset of Drayton by reason of the death of Elizabeth who was the wife of Sir Reynold de Cobham and of the non-age of Robert, s. and h. of John de Ferrers and the said Elizabeth.

Another writ of the same nature to William de Walshale directs him to remove the king s hand and not to meddle further with two-thirds of Hintes, in the king's hands by reason of the death of Sir Richard de Meynell, and to deliver it to Jane his widow, with whom he had lately held jointly of the enfeoffment of Sir Hugh de Meynell. Another similar writ to the escheator of Bucks reveals the fact that, by June, 1374, Maud, the widow of Sir John de Bottetourte, had remarried Sir Thomas Harcourt of Ellenhall. It may help to elucidate the relationship of Harcourt and Shareshull, and the descent of the manors of Shareshill, Sardon and Patshull, if we refer to a writ of March, 1375. This writ proposes an action between William de Shareshull III. and Denise (le Botiler), widow both of Hugh de Cooksey and of William de Shareshull (*d.* 1366–7), on the ground that Sir Ralph de Ferrars was tenant of the manors in dispute and that he was away on the king's service. Now, Sir Ralph, the captain of Calais, was second husband of Jane, widow of Sir William de Harcourt, and was thus stepfather of Richard de Harcourt (*d.* 1350), and of his young widow who is called a daughter of Shareshull.

As for the Staffords, we find that by February, 1375, Ralph Stafford was safely married to Maud Hastang, the heiress of Grafton, and that heiress had proved her age. Ralph's eldest brother was already, by 1376, described as a knight of Wiltshire ; and Thomas de Stafford, the king's serjeant-at-arms at 12*d.* a day, died in 1375, in receipt of a royal corrody at Trentham priory.

The church did not suffer from corrodies alone ; in July, 1374, Master John Wyclyf of Leicestershire stood surety for Richard Beneger, parson of Donington, that he would not prosecute aught over sea which may tend to the prejudice of the laws of England. Before long Master John Wickliff was to be himself in need of sureties, and so was mother church.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HUGH DE AUDLEY'S MANOR OF STRATTON-AUDLEY.

SIR,

Cockayne in his *Complete Peerage*, following the account given in Beltz's *Memorials of the Garter* (p. 82) and an article in the *Herald and Genealogist* (V, 63), makes out the first four sons of Sir James de Audley to be his sons by a first wife (name unknown) and his youngest son Hugh only to be his son by Ela Longespee. This hypothesis is based on the undoubted fact that after her husband's death Ela made over to her son Hugh the manor of Stratton, which had been settled on them in frank marriage (*Inquisitions*, 56 Hen. III., No. 8). Beltz contends that under a settlement in frank marriage, which involves an entail upon the first and other sons of the marriage, it would be legally impossible for her to make it over to a younger son. Mr. Josiah Wedgwood, M.P., in his excellent article on the parentage of Sir James de Audley, K.G. (*Staffordshire Collections*, IX, N.S., pp. 245–68), has shown conclusively that Ela was married to Sir James de Audley of Heleigh, and the settlement made on them in frank marriage in 1244 (*ib.*, IV, p. 102), and that all the sons were born after that date, so that, whether legally impossible or not, it was undoubtedly her youngest and not her eldest son to whom she made over the manor on her husband's death.

I venture to think that the explanation is a very simple one and the legal difficulty purely imaginary. The settlement having been made in 1244, long before the Statute of Westminster, the second usually known as "*De Donis Conditionalibus*" (13 Edw. I.), the estate thereby created was not an estate in tail special but a fee simple conditional on the birth of a child, and there was nothing to prevent Ela de Audley after her husband's death in 1272, thirteen years before the passing of the Statute, from alienating the manor even to a stranger if she thought fit (Blackstone's *Commentaries*, ii, 93–5; *Coke upon Littleton*, 19A and note).

I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

C. G. O. BRIDGEMAN.

THE ORME SCHOOL AT NEWCASTLE.

SIR,

In regard to the Charity Inquisitions *re* Orme's School on page 2 of Vol. 1912, may I alter the name of the first schoolmaster. It is printed "Richard Maclim." It ought to be Richard Machin.

On page 212 you quote an Ancient Petition, File 218, No. 10874. There is no date, but you say "Before the King (Edward III.)" I have extracted one of 1324/5, 18 Edw. II., in the Public Record Office, and my translation is very similar to yours. In your Petition the fee farm is mentioned as 15*m.*; in mine the burgesses ask that the fee farm may be 40*m.*

In regard to the "Ancient Correspondence" between the bailiffs of Newcastle and Edward I. on p. 240, I have the original Latin extract. The suit referred to in the correspondence is from the *De Banco Roll*, Michaelmas, 8–9 Edw. I., quoted in *Staffordshire Collections*, VI, i, p. 111.

I am writing a series of articles on the early history of Newcastle, and I oppose the view of Mr. J. W. Bradley that Newcastle's first charter is of date 1235.

I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

T. PAPE.

Middle School, Newcastle-under-Lyme.

WARWICK OR STAFFORDSHIRE.

Dear SIR,

I have been looking through the 1911 volume of the William Salt Society, and have a small query to offer. On p. 457 "Tamworth" is given. I wish you could have this verified, for I have notes of "Tanworth" (near Henley-in-Arden and near Beaudesert, one of the Montfort Manors), near to which is "Wilmcote," with a possible confusion with "Tamworth," near to which is "Wilnecote." My impression is that these two pairs of names may have been frequently misread by students not familiar with the district.

Yours faithfully,

PETER MONTFORT.

PORT OF REPTON AND OF ILAM.

Dear Mr. BERESFORD,

May I point out to you an error in the 1912 volume. On p. 185 a footnote states—"Sir John Port, founder of Repton School, knighted 1547, M.P. Derbyshire, 1553, *d.* 1557. He was no connection of the family of Porte of Ilam."

Firstly, in the text itself, and in fact, both spelt their name "Porte," though the footnote would suggest a difference.

In 1551, referring to "my dear brother" German de la Pole of Radbourne, "John Porte of Etwall, Knight," so spells his name as did his father, the judge who had married Joan, widow of John de la Pole.

But the main point is that the *Staffordshire Collections* should not deny the relationship of the Ports of Derbyshire and Staffordshire. There is, I believe, no doubt whatever that the founder of Repton and Sir John Porte of Ilam were near kinsmen, as has been long accepted and as the "Pedigree of Port of Chester, Etwall and Ilam" in Sleigh's *History of Leek* shows. Sir John Port, the judge, being therefrom, I think, first cousin of the first John Port of Ilam, mentioned in the text of page 185 of the above volume. Also Port of Etwall and Port of Ilam bore the same arms.

Though the representation of Porte or Port of Ilam later went in female lines, the estate and name of Port was maintained. The last of the family named in Sleigh's *Leek* was the Rev. George Richard Port, B.A., of Brasenose College, Oxon, eldest surviving son of John Port, who sold Ilam in 1807. He was not the last of the family for he married, secondly, December 13th, 1859, and, dying in 1882, left an only son, G. B. M. Port, who married my sister and has an only son, F. G. R. Port, born October 10th, 1892.

Hoping for the sake of accuracy, etc., you will be able to get some correction made in the footnote mentioned,

Believe me,
Yours faithfuly,
R. E. E. CHAMBERS.

(Sleigh's *History of Leek* should be treated with caution—the pedigrees particularly so.—ED., *Staffordshire Collections.*)

LIST OF SHERIFFS.

Correction by Mr. Horace Round.

Dear Mr. Wedgwood,

. . . Of course this volume (1912) is rather late in its contents for my special knowledge, but it ought to appeal to the subscribers. Your article on the "Lists and Indexes" should be useful to *all* local antiquaries, to whom these compilations are probably little known. . . .

As to the "List of Sheriffs" you *may* have authority for Maurice de Tiretei (*i.e.*, Maurice de Titley, Essex), but what is it? When he attests as *Vicecomes* it is as Sheriff of *Essex*.

As to page 346, it has long been recognized that the party's age was of no consequence to the Crown, so long as he was *over* 21. More disquieting is the later discovery that the alleged recollections of the deponents frequently savour of "common form."

I am, yours truly,

J. Horace Round.

15, *Brunswick Terrace, Brighton.*

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